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AND

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BIRTHS.

At Singapore, on the 2nd August, the wife of T. D. CANNING, of a daughter.

At "Burwood," Singapore, on the 3rd August, 1900, the wife of G. A. KESTING, of a son.

At 36, Broadway, Shanghai, on the 4th August the wife of ROBERT LEWIS, of a daughter.

On the 10th inst., at Ningpo, the wife of W. H. WILKINSON, H.B.M. Consul, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd August, at the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Singapore, by the Rev. Father Rivet, WILLY HASENBALG, only son of Theodor HASENBALG, of Hamburg, to ALBINA LAGOMARSINO, only daughter of the late Luigi LAGOMARSINO, of Genoa, Italy.

At Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 3rd August, at 5.30 p.m., Miss L. A. BOVEY, daughter of Mr. W. BOVEY, "Shanghai," Bovey Tracey, Devon, England, to the Rev. DONALD MACGILLIVRAY, M.A., B.D., of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission.

DEATHS.

On the 31st July, 1900, at Kiukiang, nine days after his father's death, ARTHUR BERTRAM, only and dearly loved son of the late W. B. WALTER, of the I.M. Customs, aged 3 years. Accidentally drowned.

At Hankow, on the 5th August, 1900, of heat apoplexy, U. G. S. I. TROJEL, Boat Officer, I.M. Customs, aged 36 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 9th July arrived, per M. M. steamer *Yarra*, on the 12th August (34 days); and the English mail of the 20th July arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Parramatta*, on the 17th August (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week from the north will be found in the telegrams from our correspondents on p. 121.

H. M. SS. *Whiting* and *Plover* left Shanghai for the north on the 10th instant.

The Korean Emperor has contributed 1,000 koku of rice, 1,500 bags of flour and 2,000 boxes of cigarettes for the allies in North China.

The exodus of the better class Chinese from Shanghai is gradually decreasing, and the number of passengers from Shanghai to Ningpo is normal once more.

The German Government are purchasing a large number of horses and mules on the Adelaide market for service in China, with the permission of the Colonial Office.

It has been computed that 3,000 Martinis and bayonets, and one-and-a-half million rounds are required for the possible armament of British subjects at Treaty ports in China.

Captain A. J. Horsley, of the *Europa*, is to call at Batavia on his way from Australia, with a view to the large number of men under his command being utilised, if necessary, in China.

It is understood in some quarters, says the *Singapore Free Press*, that the Hon. J. K. Birch contemplates retirement, and may probably not return to the colony on the expiry of his leave.

The P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Carthage*, hired hospital-ship, left Bombay on Thursday evening, the 9th instant. The same Company's hired transport *Formosa* left Bombay on the 13th August in the morning.

A Paris telegram dated the 13th ult. says that the French Admiral Pothier, the commander of the China squadron, has appointed Captain Viaud ("Pierre Loti"), now travelling in India, as his chief aide-de-camp.

A Government notification received on the 10th instant states that information has been received from the Government of the Straits Settlements that the prohibition against Chinese immigration has been removed, while quarantine is maintained.

The Marine Court at Tokyo has decided that the Captain, J. Jones, and the Chief Officer Salmon were responsible for the loss of the *Tokio Maru*, and has suspended their certificates for six and twelve months respectively. They are said to have appealed.

A concession for an overhead electric tramway in Bangkok is to be granted to Capt. L. de Richelieu and Mr. A. Westenholz, acting on behalf of a syndicate. Work will be commenced as soon as the concession is signed, and the line is expected to be ready in about eighteen months.

The North German Lloyd steamer *Holstein*, has, under a charter made in Hongkong, arrived in Manila with a large cargo of rice consigned to the Tabacalera Company. She will continue to carry cargoes of merchandise to that port from others in the East and Far East.

The Japanese Naval Department appears to have decided to construct one second-class and one third-class cruiser at home. Designs for the two cruisers have just been completed, and materials for their construction will be ordered from England at an early date. Upon the arrival in Japan of the materials, one of the vessels will be built at Kure, while the other will be constructed at the Naval Shipbuilding Yard at Yokosuka.

The new Hamburg-American liner *Deutschland* has beaten the famous maiden trip of the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, which has heretofore held the record across the Atlantic. The *Deutschland* steamed 3,044 knots in 5 days 17 hrs. 27 min., averaging 22.42 knots an hour for the whole voyage.

Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., agents in Hongkong for the British North Borneo Co., state that the British North Borneo Government has intimated its willingness to offer free grants of land alongside the line of railway to Christian Chinese refugees who may desire to settle down in that country.

According to Japanese papers, the new Japanese cruiser *Azuma* (9,456 tons), which has been constructed in France, sails for home on the 29th July, while the first-class battleship *Asahi* (15,447 tons) left England on the following day for home. These warships may be expected in Japan some time in October next.

The *Nippon's* war correspondent says that very marked friendships exists between the Japanese and the English in the field. They supply each other's wants and are mutually helpful in every way. The Indian soldiers have become familiar with the term "Japanese," and show the greatest good will, and the Wei-haiwei regiments speak of the Japanese as "Nippon Daijin."

The steamer *Kiukiang* reports passing on the 11th August at 1 p.m. off Taichow Island, two German transports under convoy of a warship. These transports will be the *Franfurt* and *Wittekindt*, which reached Singapore on the 3rd instant and proceeded direct to Kiaochoo. They have on board over 2,500 men, including the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Marine Infantry and 160 men of the Horse Artillery, 100 of the latter being Pioneers.

The arrival of transports in Hongkong harbour from the south during the past week were *Nizam* (11th inst.), *Nurani* (15th), *Rewa* (16th); and *Warora* (13th), *Nuddea* and *Wardha* (13th), *Itaura* (15th), from the North. The departures *Nizam* (12th), *Nurani* and *Jelunga* for the north; and *Nawab* (11th), *Warora*, *Nuddea*, and *Wardha* (13th), *Itaura* (16th). H. M. gunboat *Lisard* departed on the 11th for Foochow; H.M.S. *Argonaut* arrived on the 13th.

The *France Militaire* states that the despatch of four batteries of Marine Artillery to China offered a good opportunity to put the new French q.f. gun, which is said to be of rather delicate construction, to the test of hard wear and tear. Instead of this, the Minister of Marine has sent four batteries of 3.2-inch mountain guns of an old type. The reason given for this is that the guns sent are considered good enough for a conflict with non-European troops.

It is stated, says the *Japan Mail*, that the transport coolies engaged in Japan for the British and German forces in North China are to be obtained through the emigration societies. If these men are employed as military carriers (*gumbu*) their pay must be a yen and a half daily and arrangements have to be made for payments to their families in the event of death. That is the law. To observe it where foreign Powers are the employers is evidently difficult, and the alternative is to drop the term "military carrier" and place the matter on the basis of emigration.

THE PEKING RELIEF FORCE.

(Daily Press, 15th August.)

As day after day passes without news from Peking on which we can implicitly rely, the public is perhaps too prone to reflect on the delay of the relieving forces on their weary way to the Capital. Those, however, who know the road, even at the best of times, are aware how difficult is the task of advancing through the low-lying country which proved so impenetrable to Admiral Seymour's first attempt at rescue; and when to this is added the certainty that a defeat would result not only in the murder of every wounded soldier, but in the massacre of every European in Peking and the interior, it may well be conceived how heavy is the responsibility resting on the leaders of the relief force. Still with all these facts before us, and reckoning the natural desire of the commanders that no information should reach the enemy of their intended movements, it seems to be a step backwards that no means of communication with the North, otherwise than the Chinese Government lines passing through Chihli and Shantung, should exist between the front and the outer world. At various times it has been proposed that a submarine wire should be laid from Chefoo or Weihaiwei, communicating with the Great Northern line from Gutzlaff to Hongkong, but for some reason, probably connected with international matters, the idea seems to have been dropped. Still Chefoo or Weihaiwei is within less than two days' steaming, even by an ordinary steamer, of Gutzlaff, and it certainly does seem incomprehensible why with this means of communication open no effort has been made to place on the line a fast steamer. It is, of course, inevitable where every state, large or small, feels a natural desire to take some part in the relief, that differences of opinion should exist as to the necessity for publicity; and we can understand that even Great Britain and the United States should to a certain extent fall in with these views; but even so, where the necessity of consulting their governments may at any moment arise, it seems strange that no better way than the present should exist of making the wants or successes of our armies known to their respective governments.

At first it was stated that the forces would advance along different converging lines, but, doubtless from the fear that these movements would be sent on instantly by the Telegraphic Administration to the enemy, the outer world has had to remain in almost entire ignorance of the position from day to day. Again it does not seem quite comprehensible to those who know the approaches to the Capital why the line of the Peiho, intersected by marshes capable of being flooded everywhere, and at this time of year a hot-bed of fevers of all descriptions, should have been preferred to the longer, but certainly more feasible, line by way of Tongshan. In either case the camp at Lutai has to be reckoned with, and from the experience of the railway between Tientsin and Peking gained by Admiral Seymour's force it is unlikely that the movements of the relief force will be much expedited by its presence. Again there are whispered certain statements with regard to the behaviour of the Russian troops, regarding which the light of publicity would have some controlling effect. The campaign, it is true, is not one to be fought with rosewater, but there are certain precautions which it is well to observe, even in a war à l'outrance, and which are sometimes apt to be forgotten by too excitable commanders on the field. At home in England the absence of information is having a far from salutary effect. Lord Salisbury's

evil genius in all things relating to China is leading him to depend more and more for his inspirations on the interested suggestions of the Chinese Minister to St. James's; and as the latter is so far master of the situation, the information sent bears too plain evidence of having been "cooked." Altogether there is good reason to complain of the neglect by our government of such means of information as are easily available. With regard to what is actually happening in Peking, the leaders of the rebellion have shown an unexpected ability to block every avenue of communication; it is doubtful if a single one of the missives which were permitted to leave the city arrived untampered with, unless we can depend on the absolute authenticity of the cypher messages which have been made public during the last few days, including the two received in Canton on the 11th instant, which appeared in our issue of the 13th. Many attempts to communicate in the early stages of the siege were doubtless made, but the evidence seems to point to these having fallen into the enemy's hands, who thus accumulated a stock to be sent out at intervals as suited his convenience. Altogether the situation is by no means reassuring, and the neglect of our Government to take advantage of every means possible for obtaining information justifies the apprehension that Lord Salisbury is not yet alive to the gravity of the situation or the importance of the issues involved.

(Daily Press, 16th August.)

The advance of the Allied Troops upon Peking has so far been pretty rapid since the defeat of the Chinese at Peitsang, when after seven hours' fighting they were driven out of their entrenchments at that place. The Allies then marched on to Yangtsun, where they again found the enemy strongly entrenched, but succeeded in dislodging them on the 8th instant. Thence they toiled on to Nan-tsai-tsun, up to which point the railway and road ran nearly parallel; but the Allies, following the road, proceeded to Hosiwu, where they arrived on the 10th inst. On the following day they succeeded in reaching Anping, or Ngan-ping as it is called on some maps, only twenty-seven miles from the capital. At this rate of progress the Relieving Army should have reached Tungchow on the 13th inst., and may now even be encamped under the walls of Peking. This is supposing all to have gone well, and no serious opposition made to their progress, but it is hardly likely they would be permitted to approach within cannon-shot range of the walls of the city, much less to enter its sacred precincts without a struggle. The Boxers are in enormous force in and around Peking, and the so-called Imperial Government would have at least 30,000 to 40,000 disciplined troops at their command. It is probable that a desperate stand would be made outside the city walls, and every effort put forth to overpower the invaders by sheer weight of numbers. In the event of that failing, they would most likely fall back within the walls and commence a fresh defence behind those ramparts. The result, however, can hardly be in doubt. The walls can easily be breached with modern artillery, and after that the Allies may be trusted to break down further resistance. At the same time this will not prove a mere walk over. Tientsin was not captured without loss and the entrenchments at Peitsang and Yangtsun cost the Allies many valuable lives, and much hard fighting.

Meanwhile the public are asking what the Allies will find in that city of mystery, Peking. That the bulk of

the Foreign Ministers and the inmates of the Legations are alive seems probable, but we have no certainty that in the last few days of suspense and starvation the tale of murder may not have been completed, and on arrival no further light obtained, which may throw a ghastly radiance on this tragedy. Or the Allies may, on entering Peking, find that it is the capital no longer; that the seat of power has been removed to Sian-fu, the capital of the province of Shensi, and that the surviving foreigners have been taken there as hostages. We trust that this will not prove to be the case. If the latest received messages from the Legations are to be relied upon, such a move was not in contemplation, and it is more probable that the so-called Government will try and brazen it all out on the ground of non-responsibility for a struggle they were not the first to provoke. The Chinese urge that the allies commenced hostilities by firing on the forts at Taku, quite ignoring all that had preceded that event. It is sincerely to be hoped that the concord between the Treaty Powers will stand the test of time, reverses, troubles of all kinds, and that the policy of pin pricks will not be resumed by the French. The Allies should early decide upon one common line of action and act loyally on its terms. Otherwise they may all have weighty reasons in the not distant future to repent having allowed mutual distrust or petty jealousy to stand in the way of a satisfactory settlement of the Chinese Puzzle.

THE CRISIS IN NORTH CHINA.

(Daily Press 17th August.)

It is unfortunately the case that the most difficult portion of the contest in China has not yet come to be discussed amongst the nations, though each and all would willingly have evaded the task. As long as the actual contest was merely one of words or even of "spheres" there was some hope that a solution of the difficulty would have come of itself from some hitherto unsuspected quarter, and hence Mr. HAY's *Memorandum*, which, without committing any to any very definite line of policy, yet held out a point round which might be gradually accreted the pearl of a common policy, was gladly accepted by all as at least a temporary alleviation of the strain which all alike felt was becoming too intense for easy endurance. To use the old Alabastrine simile the oyster has been opened and the seed-pearls of western civilisation inserted, and it now only required a little patience to abide the result, for each to draw out his share of the growing gem. But China had no stomach for the process, the seeds, albeit minute, kept up a process of irritation inconvenient to her ostrean digestion, and she determined once for all to get rid of the offending bodies. The well-meant scheme of Mr. HAY which was to have preserved her from external damage and kept her juices intact, was suddenly rendered ineffective, and China, which had for so many ages kept herself concealed from the rude rays of vulgar light, has suddenly, and with almost explosive violence, disclosed the innermost workings of her vascular system. Now, however, that the oyster has spared the world the tedious process of opening, and lies naked and bare for the first passer-by to make a meal of, the question which comes into prominence before all others is, What to do with her?

Without any very decisive scheme of deglutition, England had been assiduously watching the bivalve during the term of growth of the big pearl, which she hoped one day to add to her jewels; and for a time she was left almost alone in her self-imposed

task. But a spirit of curiosity to see what she could be so intently engaged on led others first to take a furtive look, and finally to set themselves down as watchers in their turn. First came France, herself engaged in a similar task on or about her southern fringes. Then Germany sniffed the breezes of the wide Pacific, and commenced to nibble about China's coasts, and was quickly followed by Russia, who had noticed something particularly fascinating about the apparently barren steppes of northern Asia. Then little Japan smelt a sweet savour arising from her broad seaward plains; and finally America, her next-door neighbour, thought it hard that she alone should be left out in the cold. None of them pondered what the oyster herself was thinking of. She was but a mollusc, it was true, and a mollusc's sensations are not very acute, and might fairly be left out of consideration. But though the oyster's senses were not very acute, nor her nervous system very highly developed, she had still some primitive organs of sensation, and the grains of sand that each had left irritated her—how she in her semi-developed condition did not quite understand; so by a sort of reflex action she determined to get rid of the offending particles. Of course, if her mental faculties had been developed to the same extent as her merely sensual ones, she would have seen the impossibility of the process, but who ever knew an oyster to reason? So with one great convulsive effort she tried to cast out the offending particles, but burst herself in the struggle, and now lies stranded and helpless on the beach an oyster indeed, still luscious, but for ever deprived of the power of rehabilitation.

But it is characteristic of the lower creation that the lower the form the more tenacious it is of life, and the gargantuan life of the oyster is no exception. The oyster is there, indeed, to all intents dead, yet of those around no one dares to begin the feast. Each thinks his own capacity sufficient to bolt the tempting prize, but in the face of his neighbour each shrinks from undertaking the task. Nor is the hesitancy aught but natural, for each feels that the first that begins will have to face in mortal combat, not one, but all his neighbours. Yet something has to be done, and that quickly. The first thing is, of course, to hurry up to Peking, to collect the *disjecta membra*, and to look after the morsels ejected; but it is only too evident from the muttered growls and occasional snarls that meet one's ear that the concord that prevails is much the same which rules amongst a pack of wolves in pursuit of a lonely traveller on the steppe. The sensible proposition that the advance should be left to one of the Powers on behalf of the common interest, with, of course, proper guarantees, did not meet with acceptance amongst the hungry crowd, each of whom feared to lose the tit-bits, so all set off together with a whoop and a shout. Looked at in the abstract, the work is not that of sensible men; but who ever yet found a man sensible when an oyster lay before him on a plate ready opened, waiting to be devoured?

But leaving our simile to one side, what is really to be done now that the display of mere savagery at Peking has rendered impossible the continuance of the present administration? A lesson as to the really barbarous basis of the pretended civilisation of China has been given, which it would be well for us not to forget nor to attempt to gloss over, and this naturally leads to the first conclusion. Whatever government we establish in China can only be, as it were, in a go-cart till the infant can walk

and control his own conduct. But how, out of the motley and snarling group who would assume the task, are we to find an honest and unbiassed man fit for the purpose? We confess we can find no reply. Next as to the seat of government. No sensible man would suggest its being revived in Peking, the city of crime and intrigue. But, as we suggested, where is our sensible man to be found? Even more than Peking as a capital, Nanking enjoys the prestige of former greatness, and is moreover in the centre of the Empire and in the heart of the Chinese people. But if England were to propose Nanking, Russia, who has hitherto been the gainer from those very intrigues that have disgraced Peking, would at once refuse it, as too central and too accessible. Again, as to the head. Those who valued the future well-being of China, and desired to see the Empire revived on civilised lines, would at once say, Restore the young Emperor KWANG HSU, who alone amongst the statesmen of China saw the evils that were eating into her as a canker, and was prepared with a remedy. But who values the future well-being of China, except as an heir values a reversionary estate? Not Russia, not France, not Germany, not Japan. Perhaps in theory the United States, and in practise England, because she has had experience in her history of the effects of absorption, and would prefer being spared the necessity. Russia would fear lest the reforms introduced by the young Emperor should run on English lines. France would fear lest he might block her insidious march into Yunnan, and ruin her rickety baby of a Colonial Empire. While Germany would dread the effacement of the Teutonic tongue, were that blessed word *hinterland* to fall out of use. We speak not of Italian idylls of a fruit farm in Fuhkien, of Japanese police in Chekiang, nor of Belgic rails and Belgic locomotives everywhere, because these are things which of themselves are not pressing, unless as the ugly rush that is apt to finish up a too festive entertainment, but we have said enough to show the nature of the task before us. Fortunately the one Power, that consistently—consistently because she has had experience of the vanity of the other course—is disposed to act from motives beyond the mere territorial ambitions of the moment, is in a position to exercise some authority in the settlement, and this affords the one bright ray of hope through the unpleasant atmosphere of hate and base intrigue that looms around. The Ministry, and with the Ministry, the Country, has declared that England will be no party to the partition of China, and that China must be left for the Chinese. If the nation be determined to see out this programme, and use its influence and power to induce order amongst the gnashing crowd, it will deserve, and will doubtless gain, the universal applause of the nations, whom it will have saved from a wicked, and what is worse than wicked, silly internecine conflict, wherein all shall have lost, and the would-be prey shall be found after all to be a mouthful too huge and bitter to be swallowed.

But (and above all) let us not in our administration of justice again forget revenge for punishment. Let us have no destroyed Summer Palaces, as emblems of our imbecility, and our inability to administer the first principles of right and reason. But let us on the other hand be held back by no principles of mere expediency or sentiment from the most condign punishment of those individual actors who have brought about the present state of affairs. The Empress Dowager, the truculent Prince TUAN, and his supporters LI PING HENG

and TUNG FUHSIANG; for such wretches no punishment can be too hard or too degrading, and it would be well that what were done were done well, and done publicly.

THE MESSAGES FROM PEKING.

(Daily Press, 13th August.)

It is with mixed feelings that the messages will be read which we publish to-day in another column from Sir CLAUD MACDONALD and Mr. CONGER to their Consuls at Canton. It is satisfactory that there is once more a possibility of receiving ungarbled and undoubtedly authentic despatches from the besieged garrison at Peking. Moreover, it is now possible that messages may get through to the Legation from Canton, the Imperial Chinese Telegraph Service having expressed its readiness to accept such messages at sender's risk and to attempt to forward them by courier *via* Tsinanfu to the capital. But the purport of the two messages received in Canton on Saturday affords none too much of comfort to the anxious. Sir CLAUD MACDONALD announces on the 6th inst. that there was ten day's food supply in the Legation. On the 21st ult., as will be seen from the message received in Tientsin on the 27th ult., the text of which we reproduce elsewhere from our Shanghai morning contemporary, he reported that there remained only food sufficient for a fortnight at most. Presumably, therefore, a small extra supply was got in, or else economy enabled the available stock to be spread out over a longer time. But even if there be sufficient food to last to the 16th inst., i. e. next Thursday, it will be seen that both Ministers do not exaggerate affairs when they say "Situation desperate." Sir CLAUD records a fresh Chinese offer to escort the garrison to Tientsin, but significantly adds: "Remembering Cawnpore we refuse offer." Even if the Chinese authorities make the offer in good faith—which no one is likely to believe—they could not guarantee a safe conduct through the hordes of the worst ruffians in the Empire which hold the country between Peking and the advance guard of the Relief Force, now we trust well on its way forward from Yangtsun toward its goal in the capital. Mr. CONGER's message ends, more hopefully than our own Minister's, with the promise to hold on indefinitely, whatever happens. But this is beyond the power of the Ministers of the Powers to promise. It depends on the half-heartedness of the Chinese-Manchu troops, and, as we said on Saturday, on the chance of disunion among the authorities at Peking, whether the Legation can hold out much longer. There are not wanting many to prophecy that a collapse of the enemy will now take place; but to judge by the exceedingly sanguinary struggle at Yangtsun on the 8th instant, such optimism hardly seems warranted. It is better, however, that the soldiery and "Boxers" should remain to oppose the Relief Force than that they should fall back on Peking and try to wreak their vengeance on the little garrison of Europeans, Americans, and Japanese there. It is impossible to predict what will happen, but the defence of the British Legation for these many weeks has been so wonderful an affair that it seems hardly too much to hope that the extreme anti-foreign party has abandoned its belief in the invulnerability of the *I Ho Chuan* for a better-founded respect for the courage of the foreigners.

The rate for the charter of ships in Yokohama has risen to 9 yen a ton, and thus a steamer of 2,000 tons cannot now be produced for less than 18,000 for a month.

THE DEFENCE OF SHANGHAI.

(Daily Press, 16th August.)

Simultaneously with the effective co-operation which has at last been secured among the various nations who are represented by troops up north, a serious situation threatens to develop in Shanghai owing to the miserable intrigues and jealousies of those who are all equally interested in the safeguarding of the Settlements of that port. The Goorkhas and Bombay Infantry under the command of General CREAGH arrived there on Tuesday, but did not proceed to land. The *China Mail's* Shanghai correspondent, in his despatch published yesterday afternoon, says that this was owing to the intrigues of the French and American Consuls with certain American missionaries in the employment of the Chinese, helping to frustrate the action of the British authorities. In the case of the French Consul this action does not occasion much surprise, for, as we have already pointed out, there was a very strong suspicion that the Comte DE BEZAURE was engaged in a secret arrangement with LI HUNG-CHANG, who is not still stopping in Shanghai without a reason. But with regard to the U. S. Consul, strong doubts will certainly be entertained of his complicity in any such unfriendly action against the British, more especially after reading Reuter's telegram of the 13th inst., stating that the United States have decided to ignore the Chinese protests with regard to landing troops in Shanghai. In a leading article in its issue of the 11th instant, the *North-China Daily News* sums up the case for the landing of a small body of troops concisely. "There seem unfortunately to be—and we suppose it is inevitable—elements in the community anxious to disturb the cordial understanding between all the Powers that has marked the operations in the North; but, after all, it is the common-sense of the majority that rules in the end, and the unprejudiced majority, even of the non-British portion of the residents of Shanghai, must see that the bringing of a small force of Indian troops here is a wise precaution for the benefit of all residents of Shanghai of all nationalities equally, and for the injury of none except law-breakers. If anyone feels injured by their coming, it must be someone with whose private scheme it interferes, and who has not the interest of the community as a whole at heart."

Our contemporary concludes:—"The attempt to show that Great Britain has some sinister motive in bringing these troops here must be the result of unreasoning jealousy. Our Government has formally disclaimed any intention of joining in or encouraging any partition of China, nor has it any purpose of altering the status of Shanghai as an international Settlement." There is nothing to be added to this. The motives imputed to us in wishing to land troops at Shanghai are the invention of those who harbour designs of a general partition of China. For this reason we can hardly believe that Mr. GOODNOW joined the representative of France in his foolish and short-sighted action. Unfortunately, however, the protest, by whomever it was made, seems to have carried the day, and Shanghai may be left to depend on her volunteers and such aid as the ships in the neighbourhood can give.

(Daily Press, 17th August.)

It is with the utmost satisfaction that we are able to dispose of a mischievous blunder or misstatement. Yesterday our contemporary the *China Mail* published a telegram

from Shanghai, stating that the British troops sent from here to that port in the transports *Itinda*, *Zamania*, and *Canning* were not landed "owing to the intrigues of the French and American Consuls with certain American missionaries in the employment of the Chinese, helping to frustrate the action of the British authorities." Here was an explicit statement which at the time we had no means of contradicting, though we entertained strong doubts as to its reliability, which were not wholly dissipated by the receipt of our telegram dated Shanghai, 15th inst., 8.40 p.m., to the effect that the transports with the Indian troops on board had "been ordered to sail for Weihaiwei to-morrow (Thursday) morning, but there is still some hope that they will be allowed to land their men here." This message seemed to indicate that there had been a hitch somewhere, but it was difficult to believe that the United States Consul, who had been working so loyally with his British colleague, would join in an attempt to deprive Shanghai of the reassuring protection of a military force sent for the express purpose of restoring confidence there. We accordingly took the liberty yesterday to telegraph to Mr. GOODNOW, the United States Consul at Shanghai, to ask if the statement was true, and promptly received an emphatic reply in the negative, with the assurance in addition that "all the Consuls were working harmoniously." This official denial will, we trust, set at rest all fears and suspicions as to the accord of the Consuls at Shanghai having been disturbed. At the same time we cannot too strongly deprecate the putting into circulation of reports like the above, which are eminently calculated to bring about ill-feeling and to sow widespread distrust. At no time in the history of foreign intercourse with China has it been so necessary to avoid friction between foreigners. We ought all to have one common end and aim in view, and it is little short of treachery to the common weal to scatter seeds of distrust and jealousy among the different nationalities.

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 14th August.)

The schools falling within the purview of the local Inspectorate may be divided into two classes—Government schools and Grant-in-aid schools. In the former lot, the teachers' salaries are disbursed by the Government, and, with the exception of the Belilios Public School, education in them is free; in the latter, the schools are maintained wholly or partly by the Government grant awarded after annual examination. The Chinese schools under this head exact no fees, while the English schools, with a single exception, do. The summary eviction of a certain section of our community from the central district—a subject we have previously dealt with—and the settlement of very big numbers of these people in the western parts of the city, have had a deplorable effect on the poorer schools in Sai-ying-pun and Kennedy Town. This was, however, more or less inevitable. The serious question of rent has also played no inconsiderable havoc with many institutions; and, as there seems every reason to believe that house-property has not even yet reached its maximum appreciation, the absolute existence of many schools is endangered. Mr. BREWIN points out that since 1893, the year prior to the first plague visitation, there has been a loss, in Victoria and Kowloon combined, of twenty-one schools that supplied the wants of just under a thousand scholars. This is indeed lamentable, and

immediate steps should be taken to remedy it. We think Mr. BREWIN's suggestion of an increased grant is well worthy of consideration. The Government benefits very considerably by the enhanced value of property, for, by the Report of Mr. CHAPMAN, the Assessor, the rateable value of the entire Colony for this year, compared with that of 1899, shows the substantial increase of 17.43 per cent. It is gratifying to know that the total number of children on the rolls for last year, in spite of the many drawbacks, is a record; that the percentage of absentees is smaller than in the previous year; and that the number acquiring a grounding in English shows steady increase. Beginning with 1892, when Dr. E. J. EITEL was at the head of the Educational Department, the number of Government Schools has been gradually lessened. It was imagined that these schools might be automatically and more economically replaced by Grant-in-aid establishments. It is now seen that the scheme has not succeeded as well as was expected; because, of the twenty-two schools closed, only eleven have been replaced. Seven other Grant-in-aid institutions were opened at different times, to take the place of schools closed, but after an ineffectual struggle had to shut their doors, although it is stated that two of them may eventually be reopened. The present Inspector of Schools significantly remarks that at least five of these Government Schools ought never to have been done away with. In one of his statistical tables, Mr. BREWIN has inserted a column which we do not remember having noticed before, and which is of the highest interest. It shows the ratio which the amount spent on education bears to the Colony's general revenue. This ratio now stands at the ridiculously low figure of 1.66 per cent. This is very far removed from what it should be. In England and Wales, the amount spent on elementary education is about 5 per cent of the national income. Paragraph 17 of this Report tells us that four Free Schoolships at Queen's College were awarded in March. These are of the aggregate value of about \$100 per annum. Years ago, when the Colony was not so thriving as it now is, and when its future looked much less brilliant than at the present moment, in the days when the late Sir GEORGE BOWEN was Governor, a valuable Government Scholarship of £200 sterling per annum, available for three years, was open for competition to the students of English throughout the Colony. To the discredit of all concerned, for some short-sighted reason or other—decreasing revenue could certainly not be alleged—this splendid Scholarship was discontinued. If we remember rightly, it was won on three occasions; first by Queen's College, then known as the Government Central School, afterwards by St. Paul's College, and on the last occasion by St. Joseph's College; honours being thus fairly divided. A Scholarship of an exactly similar nature is still offered in the Straits Settlements. We think that the Government might, with advantage, revive this lapsed Scholarship. There can be no question of the beneficial stimulus that such a prize would give to all grades of education in Hongkong.

A scheme is afoot to establish a large sugar refinery in Tainan, Formosa, with a capital of 500,000 yen. It is said that the institution is to receive a subsidy of 12,000 yen for the present, from the Formosa Government Office, and 200,000 yen of the capital is to be called up during the year. Next year the subsidy will be increased to 30,000 yen, or 6 per cent. of the capital. Rumour says that similar factories will rapidly spring up, but they will receive no Government protection.

NEMESIS AND THE RULERS OF CHINA.

(Contributed.)

It is indicative of the generally low organization of the Chinese system of government that the present practical effacement of Peking as the governing centre of the Empire seems to produce no inconvenience in the provinces at large. This condition is, of course, not altogether peculiar to China, but is shared in a greater or less degree by all Asiatic monarchies; but China may fairly be said to represent the system in its fullest development. To find an analogue we have to go to the lower forms of animal life, where as yet the cephalic system is imperfect, and where without inconvenience to the life of the organism the head may be completely severed from the remainder of the body. This curious break in the continuity of the body politic, though it in the long run is likely to delay or throw impassable obstacles in the way of restoring the Imperial power, has in the meanwhile proved advantageous to China at large; as where the local administration has been in the hands of capable men it has permitted the ordinary functions of government to be carried on with the least expenditure of friction. This is more particularly the case in the great Yangtze Provinces, where the presence of two able and honestly disposed officials in the persons of their Excellencies Liu Kung-Yi and Chang Chih-tung really saved the Empire from shipwreck at the hands of the truculent and ignorant Peking faction, who have taken their cue from the late Empress Regent. Turning from these capable Satraps, there is a vast and steep decline to the other governors, ending in the sink of degradation into which the cunning, but otherwise incapable, Li Hung-chang has permitted himself to be involved. Li's career began with an instance of cold-blooded and useless treachery, which, had England been fitly represented at Peking, would for ever have barred his further employment in public affairs. On the strength of Colonel Gordon's plighted word the principal leaders of the Taiping rebels had consented to deliver up their last stronghold in the city of Soochow, thereby closing a movement that had devastated nearly one half of the Empire, and had but for the interference of the English extinguished the Ta Tsing dynasty. Unfortunately, Gordon, not yet realising the faithless character of the man, permitted the prisoners to pass into the hands of Li Hung-chang, who instantly, notwithstanding the pledge of their life given by their real captor, had them beheaded. What followed was characteristic of both men; while Li aware of the punishment due to the atrocity of the crime slunk away to avoid its falling upon his craven person, Gordon, it is well known, went about armed for some weeks in the hopes of meeting with the ignoble perpetrator. Unfortunately the British Minister, from motives of misjudged expediency, condoned the offence, and China has ever since had to bear the burden of her old man of the mountain, in the person of the false, and as recent events have shown, traitorous Li. It is edifying, in the light thrown on the situation by the conduct of the Yangtze viceroys, to see how very different has been the action of Li. The Liangkiang have of late years not been fortunate in their viceroys. An incapable, whose rule was marked by wide spread disaffection, was succeeded by Li Han-chang, an elder brother of the object of our notice, of whom it may be said that he possessed in the highest degree the besetting sin of the Li family, an inordinate acquisitiveness, without their redeeming point of astuteness. Li the Elder's rule was disastrous, and even Peking in spite of his fat offerings found itself compelled to dismiss with infamy the too dangerous Viceroy. It, however, but substituted a king Log for a king Stork in the person of the corrupt and incapable Tan Chong Lin, whose neglect left the provinces in an equally explosive condition. Li Hung-chang, who, in return for his share in the Palace Revolution that had suppressed the Emperor, and placed the truculent ex-Regent virtually on the throne, had been relegated to the part of the fifth wheel of the governmental coach, kept pressing his services on the new regime. He was ignominiously sent to complete

his degradation at the vice-regal post of the Liang-Kwang, where it was foreseen that success or failure would be equally fatal. That Li himself has been personally cognisant of the fact that the relegation to the Viceroyalty of the Liang Kwang was intended as no honour has been apparent by his acts to all who knew him personally in his powerful days; and there is no doubt that it was this feeling of sullen acquiescence in a fate that he knew was degrading that rendered his conduct at Canton so utterly inexplicable to those who did not understand the character of the man. More skilled in the routine work of government than his predecessor, Li diminished, if he did not suppress, the external phases of open piracy, but he exhibited little intention of restoring order generally within his government, and indeed seems to have been rather organising the elements of disorder, so as to be useful to himself in case of emergency. Such is the only natural explanation of his parting arrangements with the well known Black Flag leader Liu Yung Fu and others of less respectable antecedents. In Chekiang province again, usually the quietest of the whole eighteen, an incapable, or ill-affected, governor permits outrages to be committed almost under his eyes, with the natural result that the easiest governed province in the Empire is in a state not far from revolt. With that peculiar infatuation, however, which has ever had the worst results for the common interest it is noteworthy that men who have had reiterated experience of these facts should, instead of communicating with those officials who, in very trying circumstances, have been faithful to their trust, have preferred to deal with a man of such shady antecedents as Li, and should thereby still further complicate an already sufficiently embarrassing position. Of Li's present post we have absolutely no knowledge, and the assertion made by himself and entirely unsupported by any evidence, would, even if substantiated, point him out as participant in the treasonable plot of the ex-Regent. In spite of all this it is not reassuring to find that certain of the Governments interested have been actually weakening their own position by lending ear to these wild statements of a man whose least crime is that he is a deserter. Li has enjoyed the rôle so long of self-appointed mischief-maker-general to Peking that not unnaturally he has come to look upon the tenure of the office as permanent, and has been trying with some success to represent himself as the accredited agent of the Government, whatever that may mean, at Peking. Of course, the majority of the Consuls in whose hands is placed the responsibility, in the absence of any accredited minister, of carrying on negotiations have recognised the true position, and have gradually relegated Li to his proper position of a nonentity who has lost entirely the confidence of every party; but meanwhile much damage has been done by the shifting diplomacy of one or two amongst the number. Practically Li is at the moment a sort of prisoner on discretion, and if the powers hold together in regarding him in this light, little harm may eventually result from the initial mistake; but unfortunately Li is a past master in the art of dissimulation, and has so many times succeeded in effecting a rift in the councils of the European Powers, that he conceives that a similar victory is yet within his power of accomplishment. Meanwhile if the European Powers can be content for the moment to work together, and avoid the temptation of seeking to enter into separate negotiations, there is now no real danger in sight for the common interest. The great body of the people have no stomach to be led into a crusade against foreigners, which they already see must result in an entire defeat. The capture of the Taku Forts, and still more the destruction of the proud city of Tientsin, has acted as a powerful deterrent, and fear, not confidence, is the prevailing factor. There are now few ports that are not covered by one or more men-of-war of sufficient force to render all attempts at hostility hopeless, and the tacit support, which at the beginning was afforded to the anti-foreign party, is now rapidly changing to the more practical feeling that after all there may be worse evils in store for its inhabitants than are concerned with the peaceful residence of a few thousand foreigners scattered through the Empire. This result was from the first foreseen by the Yangtze Viceroys, and it was this fact

which more than anything else has turned the tables on the ignorant and fanatic Manchu faction which has made its last bid for supremacy in China.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 10th August, 10.10 p.m.

A riot is reported at Tatung on the Yangtze River. A telegraph station has been burnt. Probably the trouble is only local.

The *Pioneer* reached Ichang on the 5th instant from Chingkiang with a hundred refugees.

The Russians have defeated the Chinese attack and taken possession of Newchwang. The Taotai has fled westward.

The allied expedition to Peking took Yangtsun on the 8th instant and is still advancing.

It is reported that all the telegraph lines have been destroyed in Honan.

SHANGHAI, 12th August, 8.50 p.m.

Chungking telegraphs to-day that the Viceroy is in receipt of stringent orders from Peking forcing all foreigners to leave Szechuan promptly.

There is a gathering rabble of soldiery at Chungking. Bishop Cassels and sixty refugees are expected daily at Chungking. Assistance is urgently required there.

It is reported that the Hunan troops who were going to Peking have been diverted to Shensi to protect the Empress Dowager.

SHANGHAI, 13th August, 7.54 p.m.

The Szechuan Viceroy is much disgusted at the stories about the critical position of Chungking. He earnestly requests the Customs Staff to return, promising special protection.

There are grave fears that French jealousy prevents the landing of any Indian troops at Shanghai.

SHANGHAI, 14th August, 8.56 p.m.

The Allies reached Hosiwu on Friday, the 10th, and Anping on Saturday, the 11th instant.

The British transports with troops for Shanghai have arrived, but have not yet landed their men.

Chapels have been attacked at Hanyang and Hankow. No personal injury, however, has been inflicted on the Christians. The Viceroy promptly sent troops to suppress the rioters.

An ambiguous anti-Christian placard has been issued by Viceroy Chang Chih-tung but it has been removed on the Consuls making a protest.

SHANGHAI, 15th August, 8.40 p.m.

The transports with the Indian troops on board have been ordered to sail for Weihaiwei to-morrow (Thursday) morning, but there is still some hope that they will be allowed to land their men here.

The Relief Column is approaching Peking. Little opposition is offered to its advance. The Allies will probably find that the hostile Manchus have escaped from the city.

SHANGHAI, 16th August, 9.36 p.m.

It is reported that the Empress Dowager with the Emperor as her unwilling companion left Peking on the 6th instant for Hsian-fu, under the escort of Prince Tuan and General Tung Fuhsiang.

The Allies reached Tungchou on Monday, the 13th instant. The Chinese troops and the Boxers are much demoralised.

Sir Claude MacDonald reports "All right on the 11th instant."

The British transports remain at Woosung, awaiting final orders.

Viceroy Lui Kung-yi at Nanking is reported dangerously ill.

On the 12th inst. we received information from our Canton correspondent that the British Consul at Canton, Mr. B. C. G. Scott, received a cypher message on the 11th from Sir Claude MacDonald, dated Peking, 6th August, saying:—"Our situation here is desperate. In ten days our food supply ends, and unless we are relieved general massacre probable. Chinese offer to escort us to Tientsin, but remembering Cawnpore, we refuse offer. Over two hundred women and children in this Legation."

On the same morning at 11 a.m. Mr. R. M. McWade, U. S. Consul at Canton, also received an authentic cypher from Minister Conger, dated Peking, 6th August, to the following effect: "Besieged by Imperial army. Situation desperate. Our loss sixty killed, one hundred wounded. Some sickness, but general health prevails. Will hold on indefinitely, whatever the result."

We received late on Tuesday night from H. E. the Governor's Private Secretary and A. D. C. a copy of the following telegram, dated 10th August, which had just been received from the front:—

"Relieving force about 27 miles from Peking. Little opposition encountered. Men fatigued by the heat."

So much surprise and disgust was expressed locally over the telegraphed statement from Shanghai that Mr. Goodnow, the U. S. Consul-General, certain American Missionaries and the Comte de Bezaure, Consul-General for France at Shanghai, were opposing the landing of the British troops sent up for the protection of the Foreign Settlements that we thought it desirable to ascertain the truth of the statement. We accordingly wired to Mr. Goodnow on Thursday as follows:—

"Reported here that you and American missionaries with Comte de Bezaure are opposing the landing of British troops. Is this so?"

The reply was as follows:—

Shanghai, 16th August, 4.28 p.m.

"No, that is one of the *'s blunders. All consuls are working harmoniously. GOODNOW."

* Reference to a correspondent.

SUPREME COURT.

15th August.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

SEE FO SHING V. SIT YEE.

In this case the plaintiff is a trader, and carries on business as a foreign goods dealer at No. 265, Queen's Road Central, the defendant being a widow residing at 30, Albany Street, Wanchai. The claim is for specific performance of an agreement dated the 12th day of January, 1900, for the sale by the defendant to the plaintiff of three houses, Nos. 45, 47, and 49, Ship Street.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Bowley) for the defendant.

Mr. Pollock said he would just state shortly the nature of the claim and defence and what was alleged in the replication. His Lordship would see from the petition, in paragraph three, that the plaintiff said that an agreement

was entered into, dated 12th January, 1900, whereby it was agreed between the plaintiff and the defendant that the defendant should sell to the plaintiff and that the plaintiff should purchase from the defendant for the residue of a term of the crown lease subsisting therein certain messuages and land, being 45, 47 and 49, Ship Street, at the price of \$12,000, it being agreed between the parties that the sum of \$500 (a portion of the said \$12,000) should be paid as bargain money. Then the plaintiff went on to say that the \$500 bargain money was paid and that the defendant refused to carry out the agreement. The defendant by her answer admitted that such an agreement was made, but she said that in the petition the agreement was not fully or sufficiently set out, and she relied in her answer upon certain clauses which she alleged were contained in the agreement. In paragraph four of her answer the defendant said it was provided by the agreement that if the sale to the plaintiff should not be completed on or before the 30th January, 1900, the said agreement should be set aside and a fresh agreement entered into, to be prepared by a solicitor, and that a further sum of \$1,000 by way of bargain money should be paid by the plaintiff to the defendant. Then in paragraph five of her answer the defendant relied upon another clause which she alleged existed in the agreement. She said it was further provided that if on the examination of the title of such property it was found that it was under lease to any person, so that complete possession thereof could not be given and obtained, the agreement should be cancelled and the bargain money returned. In paragraph six the defendant said that the purchase and sale was not completed on or before the 30th January, and no further agreement had been entered into, and no further sum had been paid by way of bargain money. In paragraph seven the defendant said it was found and it was a fact that the property was, on the date of the acquisition thereof by the defendant, subject to a lease, so that complete possession thereof could not be given to the plaintiff. Then the defendant went on to allege that she was ready and willing to return the sum of \$500 paid by the plaintiff by way of bargain money, and she had paid that into court and said that that was quite sufficient to satisfy any claim which the plaintiff might have herein. In his replication the plaintiff denied that the provisions of the agreement were such as were set out in paragraphs four and five of the answer, and in particular denied that the agreement contained any provision as to any fresh agreement of purchase or sale being entered into, and he said that the only provision in the agreement for the setting aside or cancelling it was contained in the words "if it is found that there is a lease to other people the bargain money originally paid shall be handed back." The plaintiff said that those words were inserted in the agreement, as the defendant well knew, for the plaintiff's sole benefit; if the representation which the defendant made to the plaintiff prior to signing the agreement, to the effect that there was no lease to the premises, turned out to be untrue, the plaintiff might have the option, if he chose to exercise it, of cancelling the agreement and demanding that the bargain money should be handed back. He denied that such agreement contained any provision authorising the defendant to set aside the agreement, and that the agreement contained no reference to any examination of the title. The defendant alleged that there were words in the agreement which lent themselves to the construction that if the agreement was not completed on or before the 30th January, 1900, a fresh agreement should be entered into between the parties. He submitted to his Lordship with confidence that the agreement could not possibly bear that construction, and that there were no words in the agreement which were capable of bearing that meaning. The provision which it was alleged bore this construction had reference simply and solely to an extension of the term for completing the contract and to nothing else. He submitted that the intention which the parties had in their minds when this clause was inserted was perfectly clear upon the face of the clause and the agreement itself. His Lordship would bear in mind that this agreement bore date 12th January, 1900. If the agreement were to

be carried out within a few days, on or before the 30th January, 1900, he thought his Lordship would understand that the parties were perfectly ready and willing to let the matter rest upon this Chinese agreement, and it was very natural that there should have been this clause inserted. And it was not perhaps unreasonable for the defendant to stipulate that a further sum of \$1,000 should be paid by way of bargain money. The plaintiff alleged, and he should call evidence in support of his contention, that he attended at the defendant's house about the 28th January, 1900, along with a man called Ohni Wah, who was interested in this matter, because the plaintiff had agreed to resell the property to him. The plaintiff then pressed the defendant to complete the purchase and to carry the matter through on or before the end of the Chinese year, but the defendant put the matter off by saying there were a great many matters to attend to before the Chinese New Year, and it was only at her express request that the plaintiff consented to let the matter stand over until a few days after the Chinese New Year. Therefore the plaintiff said that the postponement of the completion to a date subsequent to the 30th January, 1900, took place at the express request of the defendant, and she could not now turn round and say that they ought to have tendered a deed of assignment of the property to her for signature or that they ought to have formally tendered to her the sum of \$1,000. The plaintiff also called at the defendant's house in February, but found she had gone away. In consequence he instructed Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist to write to Mr. Ewens, thought at that time to be acting as solicitor for the defendant. The plaintiff went again to the defendant's house, about a week after that, having received no answer in the meantime from Mr. Ewens. An interpreter from the office of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist accompanied him. When he got to the defendant's house he was refused admittance and he heard someone in the house call out something to the effect that the defendant had left Hongkong. Acting on the instructions of the plaintiff, Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist wrote the defendant asking for a specific performance of her contract, and that letter was answered by a letter from Mr. Reece on behalf of the defendant, dated March 1st, 1900. Paragraph five of the answer said it was further provided that if on an examination of the title the property was found to be under-leased so that complete possession thereof could not be given and obtained, such agreement could be cancelled and the bargain money returned. In the first place the plaintiff said in regard to that defence that there was not a single word in the agreement concerning any examination of the title. He further said that there was no provision in the agreement which said that if it was found that there was a lease the agreement should be cancelled. What the agreement said was this, that if it was found that there was a lease of the property to other people the bargain money originally paid should be handed back.

The evidence for the plaintiff was then proceeded with.

Owing to the illness of the Court interpreter, the further hearing was adjourned until the 23rd inst.

The Foochow Daily Echo of the 4th inst. draws attention to a Consular Notification issued on the 2nd inst. by Mr. Playfair, publishing a message from H. B. M. Consul at Shanghai with regard to the safety of the Peking Legation inmates on the 18th ult. The Echo also contains the following items:—From Kuliang we learn that tigers are beginning to make their appearance. Three have been seen. One walked off with a dog from the farm below Mr. Popoff's bungalow on Monday night, and it is reported that an old native woman was seized and carried off from a farm about two miles away on the Doong Liang road on Thursday night.—A prize presented to the Foochow Gun Club by Mrs. Lay was won by Mr. J. C. Oswald, after shooting off two ties. A presentation was made on the 1st inst. by the Club to Mr. L. Howell in commemoration of his making the highest possible score in two Cup matches against Shanghai.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On Thursday afternoon, the 16th inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. The President (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Vice-president (Dr. Bell, Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer), Mr. F. J. Badeley (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. J. McKie, Dr. Hartigan, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, Mr. Han A Fook, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

END OF THE PLAGUE EPIDEMIC.

Answering Dr. Hartigan, the CHAIRMAN said that at a confidential meeting of the Board it was decided to inform the Government that plague had ceased to be epidemic in the colony.

THE SUGGESTED EUROPEAN RESERVATION.
FOR KOWLOON.

A further reply was submitted from the Government relative to the reservation of a European district at Kowloon. It said:—

"In reply to your letter No. 118 of the 3rd inst., I am directed to inform you that the question of a European reservation at Kowloon will not be lost sight of."

Mr. McKie minuted:—This is another case of drift, and a most unsatisfactory reply to the Board's letter."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"I agree with Mr. McKie. Government pigeon-holes are proverbially capacious."

Mr. Fung Wa Chuen minuted:—"I don't agree with Mr. McKie. I think the Government's reply is a satisfactory one."

THE DESTRUCTION OF RATS BY POISONOUS GAS.

The following letter from Professor Simpson, of London, to the Colonial Office was submitted:—

"With reference to your letter No. 19,250, dated June 27th, relating to experiments made in Hongkong with a view to destroying rats by introducing poisonous gas into sewers, I have the honour to state that as a rule rats are not found in small glazed pipe sewers of the description mentioned, so that the results obtained are such as might have been expected. I would further point out that the chemicals selected for the purpose of the experiments, though capable of generating a gas fatal to rats, are far from being the best, and might under certain circumstances prove to be dangerous to coolies or workmen employed on the work. Prussic acid is, at all times, not a very safe gas to experiment with unless in the hands of a chemist, and for this reason I think it is inadvisable to generate it in sewers."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"Rats are not found in glazed-pipe sewers, and to attempt to poison the storm-water drain, leaky and large, would be waste of time. I think our officers could be much more usefully employed. We did not ask for Dr. Simpson's opinion as to the best gas to employ. Mr. Wilde is a chemist, so the objection does not apply."

Dr. Clark minuted:—"In this colony rats are not infrequently to be seen entering the inlets to the glazed-pipe sewers. It is absolutely impracticable to destroy rats in our storm-drains by poisonous gases."

PROPOSED DAIRY BYE-LAWS.

Proposed Dairy Bye-laws made under subsection 10 of section 13 of Ordinance No. 24 of 1887 were submitted. They were as follows:—

1. All premises now used or hereafter used as a dairy shall be registered annually, during the month of January, at the office of the Sanitary Board, and every application for registration shall be made in the form of the schedule attached to these bye-laws.

2. The ground surfaces of every existing dairy shall, within three months of the date of its first registration, be paved to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board with good lime or cement concrete laid down at least six inches thick, and the surface thereof shall be rendered smooth and impervious with asphalt, Portland cement, or such other material as the Sanitary Board may approve of.

The ground surfaces of every future dairy shall, before the premises are used as a dairy, be paved to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board with good lime or cement concrete laid down at least six inches thick, and the surface thereof shall be rendered smooth and impervious with asphalt, Portland cement, or such other

material as the Sanitary Board may approve of.

3. No person shall pass the night in any room used as a dairy, or in any of the rooms used for the storage of milk.

4. Every dairy shall be so drained as to be in accordance with the requirements of the Health Ordinances and the bye-laws made thereunder, and the inlets to the drains shall in all cases be placed outside the rooms in which milk is stored.

5. No water-closet, dry-closet, earth-closet, or urinal shall be within, or be in direct communication with, any dairy.

6. Every dairy and all utensils used therein shall be kept at all times in a cleanly condition and free from all noxious matter. The whole of the interior walls and the ceilings of the rooms of the dairy shall be properly lime-washed and the wood-work thoroughly scrubbed with soap and water during the first and seventh months of each year.

7. No person suffering from any infectious or contagious disease shall be permitted to take part in the sale or delivery of milk.

8. Every dairy shall be, during the hours at which bottling operations are carried on, open to inspection by the Medical Officer of Health or any of the Board's officers duly deputed by him.

9. No premises which are not used as a dairy at the time of the approval of these bye-laws shall be used for such purpose, until the premises have been approved by the Sanitary Board as being in accordance with the bye-laws for the time being in force relating to the regulation of dairies and have been registered.

10. These bye-laws will come into force on and after the 1st day of January, 1901.

Dr. CLARK said he had drawn up these bye-laws, which were based upon other bye-laws previously approved by the law officers of the Crown for other premises, such as bake-houses. A recent prosecution for adulteration of milk had shown the necessity for having these bye-laws. Probably one of the reasons why they had not had them before was that it was not good to multiply bye-laws unless they had a sufficient staff to carry them out, which he thought they now had.

The bye-laws were then considered, but before they had all been gone through,

Mr. McKIE observed that the Board had had a period of 13 years in which to bring forward these bye-laws. Now they had been brought forward they had only had them before them a couple of days, and as they saw there was a little room for improvement, he proposed that they be referred back to the Medical Officer of Health for reconsideration.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN seconded, and the motion was carried, but on the suggestion of Dr. CLARK the members of the Board made suggestions as to how the bye-laws should be altered.

THE SUGGESTED REFUSE DESTRUCTOR.

The following letter, dated August 18th, from the Acting Colonial Secretary, was read:—

"With reference to your letter No. 36 of the 2nd March last, I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Sanitary Board that provision is being made in the estimates for next year for the construction of additional public latrines and urinals, for a new Western Market on a site on the Reclamation opposite the present Harbour Office, and for increased water storage in the Tytam Valley. The question of a refuse destructor is under the consideration of the Public Works Committee."

Mr. McKie minuted:—"Refuse destructor sanctioned June, 1899."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"I understood the question of the refuse destructor was settled long ago. Why has it been referred again? The unanimous opinion of the Board might have been deemed sufficient."

The PRESIDENT said that with regard to this question perhaps they were aware, and if not he could inform them now, that before a vote for anything in the public works was allowed it came before a committee of the Legislative Council called the Public Works Committee, who sent it with their recommendation to the Council. Then it came before the whole Council, and it might or might not be approved. Nothing of that sort had ever gone through. As a matter of fact in the list which he sent to the Government for next year the sum of \$60,000 appeared for a re-

fuse destructor, but it had not yet been approved by the Public Works Committee. It had come before the committee twice and been postponed for further consideration in order that they might have information as to the working of these refuse destructors there. This \$60,000 which it was proposed to expend was not going to provide a destructor which would deal with all the refuse in the city. It was more in the light of an experiment. The cost of a destructor to deal with all the refuse of the city would be at least \$110,000. This put rather a new complexion on the affair, because if they spent \$60,000 they could still have the dust-boats at work and some of the refuse carried up to Canton and elsewhere across the harbour; so that it seemed necessary before the Council voted the money for a refuse destructor that they should consider the matter very carefully.

Dr. CLARK said the word "experiment" might to some extent be misleading. There was no question of experiment as to the efficacy or otherwise of a refuse destructor. It had been settled long ago. The only point which required experiment was how much refuse each individual destructor could deal with. The nature of the refuse of every city varied. In some there was a considerable amount of cinders, which assisted greatly in the burning of the refuse. In a city such as this there would probably be a lot of dry vegetable matter, except in the wet season, and what it was necessary to discover was how many cells would be required to burn the refuse of the city. The proposal was to provide six cells to begin with.

Dr. HARTIGAN—Am I not right in what I say—that the Government approved of this suggestion?

Dr. CLARK Yes.

Dr. HARTIGAN—When?

Dr. CLARK—In June of last year.

THE VENETIAN SANITARY CONVENTION
REGULATIONS.

Letters were submitted stating that the Venice Sanitary Convention Regulations have been withdrawn against Tamatave, Madagascar, in the Ports of Calcutta and Chittagong, and in the Ports of Burmah.

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"Our port might be declared free now."

Lieut.-Col. Ryan minuted:—"In view of the continued daily occurrence of cases, I cannot understand on what principle Dr. Hartigan's suggestion is based."

MILK SAMPLES.

The result of the analysis of four samples of milk was submitted. Mr. T. J. Wild, Acting Government analyst, expressed the opinion that samples obtained from No. 4, Kai Un Lane, and No. 35, Stanley Street, were genuine, and that a sample obtained from 104, Wellington Street, contained 30 per cent. of added water and one from No. 6, Cochrane Street, 34 per cent. of added water.

Mr. McKie minuted:—"I certainly think that the Board should exercise their power in the control of dairies, as suggested by Inspector Dandy."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"Has any action been taken in the two cases of adulterated milk?"

The PRESIDENT, alluding to Dr. Hartigan's minute, said that action was taken in the cases of adulterated milk.

THE FORTNIGHTLY LIME-WASHING RETURN.

Mr. J. H. Dandy, Chief Inspector of Nuisances, in his fortnightly return of lime-washing, said that 419 houses had been reported as having been lime-washed in the Eastern District, the number previously reported being 198. The tenements number 1,313.

THE DEATHS AT MACAO.

The deaths at Macao for the week ended July 29th numbered 53.

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

The death-rate for the colony for the week ended July 28th was 24.8, against 28.7 for the previous week and 22.2 for the corresponding week last year. The death rate for the week ended August 4th was 22.0, against 20.1 for the corresponding week last year.

NO PLAGUE IN OSAKA.

A telegram was submitted from H.B.M.'s Consul, Hiogo, to the effect that no case of plague had occurred in Osaka since July 1st.

THE KOWLOON WATER SUPPLY.

Dr. HARTIGAN called attention to the complaints as to the Kowloon Water Supply.

The PRESIDENT said they had had a great deal of trouble with the pumping engines. They were not originally very satisfactory, and unfortunately this year both engines broke down. The breaking down of engines was a thing which occurred in the best ships at sea and elsewhere. The difficulty in the case of these pumping engines was that instead of stopping the supply of water to Kowloon while they repaired them, they were obliged to keep them going somehow—patching them up for an hour or so. The complaints had been almost entirely confined to houses on the higher level. He did not think the Chinese had suffered from want of water. There was more water supplied in Kowloon in July than ever before. They were doing everything they possibly could to get the engines in good order. One had been repaired, and within the last few days they had succeeded for the first time during the last month in filling the Hung Hom service reservoir. All he could do was to assure the Board that the Public Works Department were sparing neither time, trouble, nor expense in getting the Kowloon water supply in a satisfactory condition.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the Monthly Meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held on Tuesday, the 7th August, at 11 a.m. — Present, Hon. R. M. Gray (Chairman) Hon. J. J. Keswick, (vice chairman), Messrs. A. Haupt, A. M. Marshall, R. L. Richardson, C. S. Sharp, N. A. Siebs, Hon. J. Thurburn *ex officio*, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).—

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting (held on the 16th July) were read and confirmed. THE VACANCY ON THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The Chairman proposed that Mr. D. R. Law (the senior representative of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire) be elected to fill the vacancy on the Committee caused by the resignation of Mr. Herbert Smith.

This was seconded by the Vice-Chairman and carried unanimously.

THE CANADIAN MAIL CONTRACT.

Read letter from the London Chamber of Commerce acknowledging receipt of the Chamber's letter of the 14th May, enclosing copy of resolution in support of the renewal by the Imperial Government of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co's contract for carrying the mails from Hongkong via the Pacific and Vancouver and announcing that it would be laid before the members of the East India and China, the Canadian, and the Postal Committees of that Chamber at their next meeting.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE.

The Chairman said this was an important matter, and he thought it fully deserved their consideration and support. The letters received from Mr. C. D. Wilkinson calling attention to the need of an amendment in the Ordinance had been circulated, and been carefully considered. He understood that the Chief Justice was strongly in favour of an amendment to the Ordinance, and he quite believed the Government would support any reasonable and practicable amendment they might suggest. The amendments to Secs. 5 and 6 of the Ordinance of 1891, drafted by Mr. Wilkinson, together with the sections themselves, had been drawn up for comparison. He personally did not quite grasp the legal technicalities, but they seemed to cover the ground.

A lengthy discussion followed, in the course of which the Hon. J. Thurburn pointed out that the amendments did not touch section 4, which, according to the judgment given by the Chief Justice in the case *Kung Hing Shingkee debtors v. Albert Ahwee* a creditor, seemed to require amendment equally with the two following sections.

The advisability of recommending that the amendment of the Bankruptcy Ordinance should be accompanied by legislation to secure the registration of partners in Chinese firms or hong was discussed at length, and a strong opinion expressed that this was necessary to secure the proper working of the Bankruptcy laws.

Eventually it was decided to adjourn the matter to allow the Secretary time to confer with the legal authorities on certain points.

HONGKONG AND THE CANADIAN PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

Read letter from the Government, dated 31st July, enclosing copy of despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reference to previous correspondence on the above subject, and calling special attention to Section 10 of the Memorandum on the Preferential Tariff Regulations.

The Chairman said he thought this cleared up the question as far as imports from say India were allowed to pass through Hongkong, but he could not see that it was an answer to their letter.

After some discussion,

It was decided to again address the Government on the subject, and formally ask, through its medium, that Hongkong should be included in the list of those colonies entitled to participate in the benefits of the Canadian Preferential Tariff.

PROPOSED CHANGE OF LIGHTS ON GREEN ISLAND AND CAPE COLLINSON LIGHTHOUSES.

A letter had been received from the Government, under date 2nd August, announcing that it had under consideration the advisability of transferring the Cape D'Aguilar light (disused since the erection of the lighthouse on Waglan) to Green Island, and to remove the light at present on Green Island to Cape Collinson, with a view to improving those lights and rendering the approaches to the harbour safer for shipping, and asking the Chamber's opinion upon the proposed transfers, which would, on a rough estimate, cost about \$12,600.

The Secretary had secured the opinions of several experts, and a letter from Mr. F. D. Goddard was read, in which he expressed the opinion that the proposed change of the Cape D'Aguilar light to Green Island would be a decided advantage, the former being a 1st and the latter a 4th order light. With regard to the transfer of the Green Island to Cape Collinson the same would apply, the latter being only a 6th order light; but a strong light was not necessary on Cape Collinson, because when it is too thick to see a light outside of Tamtooi Island, it is too thick to come in. Still, if the cost of shifting would not be too great, it is advisable to condemn the poorest light. This opinion was endorsed by other experts.

A lengthy discussion ensued, in the course of which the opinion was expressed by several members that as the revenue from the light dues left some balance the Government might go further and provide revolving or flash lights at both lighthouses, as the small stationary light at Cape Collinson was often not distinguishable from a junk's light, while that at Green Island was only visible in clear weather at a distance of some four miles.

It was eventually decided to write in reply, suggesting that the proposed new lights at Green Island and Cape Collinson should be improved by making them revolving or moving lights if the expense be not prohibitive.

This was all the business before the meeting.

On the 9th inst. a Requiem Mass for the late King of Italy was held at St. Joseph's Church, in the French Settlement, Shanghai. All the Consuls were present, as were the Taotai and representatives of the Councils, Mixed Courts, Volunteer Corps, and the men-of-war in the neighbourhood. A detachment of the *Fieramosca* blue-jackets lined the central aisle.

Recently a cargo of Pocohontas coal from Norfolk, Virginia, was shipped to Nagasaki, and it was there found that a paying demand existed for it. The singularity of this shipment lies in the fact that the celebrated Takashima mines lie at the entrance of the harbour of Nagasaki, and the coal from these mines has hitherto been able to retain most of the coal trade in that part of the world. This cargo of American coal, the first which has ever entered the harbour of Nagasaki, was carried by the British ship *Needles*, and comprised six thousand tons, consigned to the China and Japan Trading Company. It will be largely sold to American naval vessels and in some cases to the ships of the British navy on that station.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

H. M. gunboat *Lizard* left for Foochow on the 11th.

On the 12th the transport *Nizam* arrived in the harbour, having left Calcutta on the 29th ult., with a British officer, and 3 followers of the 1st Madras Pioneers, 38 followers of the Native General Hospital, 147 followers and 325 transport mules, and details. The British officers on board were Captains Goodwin, Bruce, and Tweedell. The *Nizam* left again on the 12th inst.

The transport *Nawab* sailed for India on the same day. The *Warora* returned from Taku on the 12th.

The Italian armoured cruiser *Vettor Pisani*, which arrived on the 11th inst., is of 6,500 tons, 13,000 i. h. p. Her armour is 6 in. H.S., belt and gun position, 1½ in. deck; guns, twelve 6 in. Q.F., six 6.6 in., two 2.9 in., ten 2.2 in., ten 1.4 in., two maxims; torpedo-tubes 5; speed 20 knots.

The Portuguese transport *Cazengo* arrived on the 11th and left for Macao on the 12th.

H. M. S. *Argonaut* arrived here on the 13th inst. after a phenomenally fast passage from Singapore, which she left late on the 9th instant. We have already given her figures.

The transports *Nudda* and *Wardha* returned to Hongkong from the north on the 13th, and left again with the *Warora* for the south.

The same day the Russian armoured cruiser *Admiral Nahimoff* arrived in the harbour on her way north. Her principal figures are:—displacement 8,524 tons; i. h. p. 8,000; armour, belt 10 in., gun-position 7-8, deck 3; guns, eight 8 in., ten 6 in., ten Q.F., four 3-prs., six maxims; torpedo-tubes 4; speed 16.7 knots; complement, 567.

The French gunboat *Alouette* also arrived on the 13th, having left Saigon on the 7th.

The Italian cruiser *Vettor Pisani* left Hongkong on the 14th for Shanghai.

The transport *Nurani* arrived on the night of the 15th inst. from Calcutta, bringing the B Squadron, 16th Bombay Lancers (2 British and 5 native officers, 132 N.C.O.'s and men, and 95 followers), a portion of Native Field Hospital (1 British officer, 5 N.C.O.'s and men, and 57 followers), with horses and mules.

On the 15th the British transport *Itaura* returned to Hongkong from Taku and Weihaiwei.

The French 2nd-class cruiser *Friant* and the transport *Cachar* also arrived on the 15th from the south.

The British transport *Kewa* reached Hongkong on the 16th from Calcutta, having on board a squadron of the 16th Bengal Lancers (3 British and 4 native officers, 120 N.C.O.'s and men, 103 followers, 132 horses and 73 mules), a Survey Party of one British and 4 native officers, with 33 followers, four men and four followers of the Native General Hospital, and 3 native officers, 5 men, and 23 followers of the Supply Column.

The *Nurani* and *Jelunga* departed on the 16th for Shanghai, and the *Itaura* for the south.

ON THE WAY.

The next arrivals of transports which may be expected from the south are those of the *Muttra*, with the 2nd Coolie Corps and 54th Native Hospital; *Fultala* with a squadron of the 16th Bengal Lancers and a Veterinary Field Hospital, and *Sunda*, with another squadron of the Bengal Lancers, the staff of the Cavalry Brigade, and 57th Native Hospital, all due about now; *Upada*, with a squadron of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry and a section of the Native Field Hospital, due to-day; *Clive*, with the 34th Pioneers and Native Field Hospital; *Ula*, with a squadron of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry and a section of 57th Native Hospital; *Antillian*, from the Cape, with a siege train; *City of Cambridge*, with 4th Coolie Corps, and 54th Native Field Hospital.

THE RELIEF COLUMN.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

PREPARING FOR THE ADVANCE.

Tientsin, 27th July.

We are preparing for the advance on Peking. The 12th Field Battery arrived yesterday and

are to move out to-morrow, taking eight days provisions with them. Their horses are fine cattle and look very fit for work. The Bengal Lancers are expected in to-morrow and the Goorkhas to-day, so that we have even now a respectable British force on the spot. A Punjab Infantry regiment attracts considerable attention from everyone, on account of their uniform, which is similar to that of our Highland Regiments. Their Band, which consists of bagpipes, fifes, and drums, discourses sweet music occasionally and attracts good audiences, a great relief to the whizzing of bullets and screeching of bursting shells.

The weather is intensely hot, almost unbearable, and the flies must give points to those of Pharaoh's plague for numbers and annoyance, attracted no doubt by the numerous dead bodies that still remain unburied. Four of the *Terrible's* twelve-pounders, and one or two 4 inch, manned by the *Barfleurs*, are to accompany the force when they advance, the guns having been placed on board of lighters for the first part of the journey. No opposition is expected for a good distance. The army artillery will march with the columns.

The British General commanding and another general have just arrived with their staffs, and I have just learned that the advance is to take place on the 30th inst.

HASTENING FORWARD.

28th July.

The 1st Sikhs arrived here last night from Taku and we expect the Goorkhas and Lancers every hour. The Generals are anxious to make a forward move and preparations are hurriedly being pushed forward. The Japanese are to leave to-morrow if possible, for a reconnaissance and to test the enemy's positions and to hold them clear of the river. They are reported in strong force about 18 miles from here. Yesterday a runner came through from Peking to the effect that there are 40 wounded there. All Europeans are living on mule-flesh, etc., but otherwise all right. The Chinese had also entrenched themselves 18 miles from here. But the statement cannot be relied upon.

Later.

I have just heard that the Japanese forces have been repulsed, losing 28 killed.

Tientsin, 31st July.

FINAL PREPARATIONS.

The advance is expected to take place sometime to-morrow. Everything, so far as I can observe, is ready, and the troops, especially the Indian portion, are eager to get in touch with the enemy. The junks, which contain the naval guns, stores, etc., are completed with their cargoes ready for moving. Captain Callaghan, R.N., of the *Endymion*, arrived yesterday to take command of the Naval Brigade, with Commander Fraser, R.N., of the *Phoenix*, as second in command; and Lieut. Drummond, R.N., of the *Terrible*, commands the four naval 12-pounders. 350 Marines have been again landed from the fleet, and will join the Relief Column. The Bengal Lancers have arrived, and the Goorkhas are expected up to-day and several other regiments to-morrow. The railway from Tongku to this place is now in working order, and a regular service of trains is running under Russian control, which facilitates the work considerably.

Tientsin, 5th August.

ON THE MARCH.

I am glad to announce that we are at last on the move, having commenced the forward movement at 3 a.m. this morning. Shortly after midnight we commenced to prepare for this second move towards the Celestial Capital. Our forces this time number 12,000, which will constitute the fighting column, leaving an ample number for the communications. A more seasoned body of troops it would be difficult to find, comprising as they do most of the troops that took part in the recent operations here, South African veterans of the Navy, and Indian troops, many of whom have their breasts marked with ribbon that has been earned in many a hard frontier fight. One could not help noticing the look of satisfaction that beamed on the faces of our Indian comrades as they moved out this morning, looking the pictures of happiness at having been selected to fight side by side with European troops—a great amend after their disappointment at not going to South Africa. They are a force any general might feel proud to command. It was not long after the troops

had been disposed that the advanced pickets got in touch with the enemy, who were entrenched about 3 miles from the Native City, and were very quickly driven out of their position by the Allies and got on the run. At the time of writing the Bengal Lancers were on their track for all they were worth, and I hear had fetched their first blood. The troops are rapidly following up and will not give them much time to rest. The Japanese especially seem anxious to keep them going, and these wiry troops are spinning past me as I sit on a transport waggon, keeping close in touch with the *Terrible* Naval Brigade, who are swearing like true Britons at not getting on fast enough to see the fun.

THE GUNS.

It is a cause for regret that Captain Scott has not got his 4.7 gun up to the front in time to move with us, as I hear he had promised to do so, although we were thankful for those he did send, which have immortalised themselves in Tientsin. It is a disappointment to many of us who had hoped to witness Lyddite chasing Boxers as it did the Boers, and it would have been a valuable present for the Empress at Peking. Quite a fleet of junks, gaily decorated with their national flags, are sailing up the river laden with stores, etc., and our hopes run high of soon joining hands with our countrymen in the Capital.

WEIHAIWEI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

TORPEDO DESTROYER WRECKED.

Weihaiwei, 2nd August.

News has been received that a Japanese torpedo destroyer was wrecked 60 miles south of Weihaiwei. H.M.S. *Peacock*, with the divers of the *Terrible*, left on the 2nd inst. to try and get her off. A Japanese officer and two sailors who worked a sampan to this port, arriving with the news, were quite exhausted on their arrival and had to receive medical attention.

5th August.

NAVY BUSY AT WORK.

H.M.S. *Orlando* came on this morning en route to Woosung to join Admiral Seymour's Flag. She will leave at daybreak to-morrow after taking in stores and ammunition. The *Pigmy* also arrived, and proceeds to Taku after coaling. Six deaths occurred amongst the wounded in hospital here during the past week, and they were buried with naval honours by the crew of the *Terrible*, which still remains here as depot ship; Captain Scott being the Senior Naval Officer whilst the place is serving as the base for the British force. Over 100 head of cattle have been captured that were being driven round here from Chefoo, and some of the drovers killed, which shows that the province is very restless outside British and German spheres of influence; and it is generally believed that its future conduct will depend largely on the success of the Allies moving on Peking. Captain Scott has nearly completed his travelling carriage for the 4.7 gun; the work has been slow, as everything has had to be done exclusively by hand labour, the ponderous wheels having been cut out of a sheet of solid iron, and the massive axle-boxes made on board—a large order for the resources of a ship of war. It is characteristic of the captain of the *Terrible* that nothing should stand betwixt him and the accomplishment of anything he takes in hand, and it must have given him extreme satisfaction that Brigadier-General Dorward in Command at the front during the exciting operations at and around Tientsin should have officially stated that it was entirely due to the guns of the *Terrible*, under Lieut. Drummond, that the success of the operations was due, and that it was the smartness and accuracy of their fire that demoralized the Chinese.

Admiral Sir E. Seymour before he left Tientsin also eulogised the performance of these gun's crews, shaking hands with the whole gun's crew of No. 1 gun.

Weihaiwei, 6th August.

THE LOSS OF THE JAPANESE DESTROYER.

The Japanese Destroyer *Niji* has become a total wreck. This smart little craft was quite new, having only been built last year and was

on her maiden voyage from England. It appears that she was on her way to Japan and during the night of the 25th ult. she ran on the rocks near the S.E. promontory of the Shantung province, about 60 miles from this place—the weather at the time being very thick. One of her officers with 3 sailors obtained a sampan and worked their way to this port, and reported the occurrence to the Senior Naval officer, Capt. Scott. The officer, who, with the great pluck characteristic of the Japanese, had lost no time in getting here, after making his report fell down completely exhausted on the deck, and had to receive medical attention. The *Peacock* was ordered to raise steam at once and proceed to the scene of the wreck, taking with her all the divers and apparatus from the *Terrible* under the charge of Mr. Mathew, R. N., gunner of that ship. Before leaving, the Japanese officer was sufficiently recovered to sail in her with his men. The *Peacock* left harbour in the afternoon of the 31st ult. and arrived shortly after dark near the place where it was supposed she had run ashore—but they could not see where she was. Three guns were fired, and the search-light burnt for some time, which elicited a rocket reply from the destroyer and shewed her position. It was too late to do anything that night. Next morning the *Peacock* got under weigh and proceeded as close as was safe to the wreck. Diving was immediately commenced and carried on for two days. The vessel was examined inside and out, and it was found she had been badly damaged and wedged in between the rocks. Collision mats were placed in position, No. 2 compartment pumped out and made watertight, and during the evening of the 2nd inst. an attempt was made to tow her off the rocks, which unfortunately failed.

A BREAK UP.

It was hoped to get her afloat next morning, but a heavy swell set in during the night, and the vessel commenced to bump, and before daylight next morning she broke in two, the Japanese crew just having time to save her 12-pounder (her largest gun). The divers, assisted by the ship's company of the *Peacock*, saved five smaller guns (6 prs), four torpedoes, and one anchor, and finding that nothing further could be done sailed for Weihaiwei. The captain of the *Peacock* was warmly thanked on behalf of the Japanese Government by the captain of the *Niji* before he left.

THE TIENSIN FIGHTING.

The following letter from an officer at the front will be of interest to our readers.

Tientsin, 30th July.

Here we are since the 23rd June, the day on which (after two days hard marching and lying on the cold, cold ground at night) we had a fight and relieved Tientsin, and none too soon, the place being surrounded with Chinese troops and "Boxers." The people here were wild with joy at our appearance. The Russians fought with their guns in fine style, a 15 pr. Field Battery, and the rifle-fire was pretty effective on both sides. On the following day (24th) at midnight we marched out again with Russians, Japanese, Americans, Italians, etc., to relieve Admiral Seymour at See Kiu arsenal, where he was hemmed in with 200 odd troops, and 210 sick of all nations. After marching all night we came into action at daybreak, shell and shrapnel bursting over our heads merrily from a large Chinese fort. We all had to run the gauntlet of a fairly heavy rifle-fire at one time to get round an embankment. A few Russians were winged. However we got to See Kiu all right, and glad Admiral Seymour and his force were to see us. They were living on mules and all sorts of similar animals, and drinking filthy water. We had no opposition on the way back next day, and reached Tientsin (the Settlement) safely on the 26th with all the sick, &c. Two days afterwards we were ordered out again by the Admiral (although there were no Hong-kong troops engaged in the attack, and capture of the East Imperial Arsenal and Mint) under a shell and heavy rifle fire. We brought in 22 wounded, including two officers, (all naval) and 6 killed, amongst the British small force alone. Some days afterwards we had a pretty fight in taking the West Arsenal, the Japanese (brave-hearted little chaps) cavalry, merely a handful, accounting for 150 of the Im-

perial troops. The final rush on the arsenal was very fine. We burnt the place and then left it with the loss of a few who were killed, and a small number wounded. Then, being with the rear guard, we had to run the gauntlet over a bridge. One of my chums was shot dead by my side, and another plugged through both thighs. On the 13th and 14th we had the heaviest engagement of the lot, in retaking the same arsenal, and the Tientsin (native) city. The combined allied force lost over 7,000 in killed and wounded, the poor little Japanese losing most severely. Shells were flying all around us, and had it not been for the *Terrible's* four 12 prs., and the two 4 inch. (firing lyddite) off the *Algerine*, backed up, of course, with 6 prs and 9 prs., and the Russian guns covering our advance and pitching over 1,700 shells of all sorts and sizes, we never could have taken it with our force. We had to lie out in mud and water, up to our knees and often waists all night. The final attack was at daybreak. The troops were exhausted. We could not manage, on the evening of the 13th, a cross rifle-fire, for we were unable to show ourselves above the trenches. It meant the whole of us being wiped out. The Russians, however, took the Chinese battery, and the big fort, so now, thank goodness, we can sleep in place. The Indian troops are arriving and, of course, they go on to Peking. They have already been in five engagements.

DETAILED NEWS FROM PEKING.

TEXT OF DR. MORRISON'S TELEGRAM.

The following is the text of Dr. Morrison's telegram to the *Times* of the 21st ult. from Peking, as it appears in our contemporary, the *N.-C. Daily News*, to whom it was handed for publication:—

There has been a cessation of hostilities since the 18th, but fearing treachery no vigilance has been relaxed. The Chinese soldiers continue strengthening their batteries round the besieged area, also their batteries on the top of the Imperial City wall; but in the meantime they have discontinued firing, probably because short of ammunition. The main bodies of the Imperial soldiers have left Peking to meet the relief forces.

Supplies are beginning to come in, and the condition of the besieged is improving. The wounded are doing well, the hospital arrangements being admirable. One hundred and fifty cases have passed through the hospital, none septic.

The Tsungli Yamén has forwarded to the British Minister a copy of the despatch telegraphed by the Emperor of China to the Queen of England, attributing all the deeds of violence to banditti, and requesting assistance to extricate the Chinese Government from its difficulties.

The Queen's reply is not stated, but the Chinese Minister at Washington cables that the United States will gladly assist.

This despatch to the Queen was sent to the Yamén by the Grand Council on July the 3rd, yet the day before an Imperial edict was issued calling upon the Boxers to continue to render loyal and patriotic services and exterminate the Christians. The edict commanded the Viceroy and Governors to expel all missionaries from China and arrest all Christians and compel them to renounce their faith. There have been other decrees applauding the Boxers, and speaking approvingly of their burning out and slaying converts. Their leaders are stated in a decree to be Princes and Ministers.

On July the 18th another decree was issued showing a complete volteface, due to the victories of the foreign troops in Tientsin, when for the first time, one month after the occurrence, allusion was made to the death of Baron Ketteler, the deed being attributed to local brigands, though it was undoubtedly a premeditated assassination done by an Imperial officer, as Mr. Cordes who survives can testify.

Our besieging force at Peking consists of Imperial soldiers of Yung Lu and Tung Fuh-shiang, whose gallantry is applauded in Imperial decrees, though that gallantry has consisted in bombarding for one month defenceless women and children, cooped up in Legation compounds, using shell, shrapnel, round shot, and expanding bullets.

The Chinese undermined the French Legation, which is now in ruins. The French Minister was not present, having fled for protection to the British Legation the first day of the siege.

The greatest peril we suffered during the siege was from fire, the Chinese, in their determination to burn the British Legation, burning the adjoining Hanlin Academy, the most sacred building in China, sacrificing the unique library, which is reduced to ashes.

The Chinese throughout with characteristic treachery posted a proclamation assuring us of protection, and the same night made a general attack, hoping to surprise us unawares. We have still no news of the Peitang Cathedral.

The following are our casualties:—Killed—British, Captain Strouts, Phillips, Scadding, and two civilians, David Oliphant and Henry Warren, students; Italians, seven; Russians, three, and Mr. Hitroff, of the Russo-Chinese Bank; Germans, ten; Austrians, four, including Commander Thomann of the *Zenta*; Americans, seven; Japanese, Captain Ando and five marines, and Nakamura and Kojima, students; French, M. Herbert, officer, and eight men, M. E. Wagner of the Customs, and M. Gruintgens, engineer; Wounded—One hundred and thirty-eight, including Capt. Halliday severely, the American Surgeon Lippitt severely, and Capt. Myers. All doing well.

All Ministers, members of Legations, and families in good health. The general health of the community is excellent, and we are contentedly awaiting relief.

MISSIONARY REFUGEES IN HONGKONG.

AN ACCOUNT OF THEIR ESCAPE.

There arrived in Hongkong on the 13th inst. from Yunnan-fu Mr. and Mrs. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, Dr. and Mrs. Savin, Mrs. Dymond and four children, and the Misses Campbell and Liffingwell of the China Inland Mission. They came through *via* Tonkin and had several remarkable escapes from deaths at the hands of the villagers, and others they met on their perilous journey. Mr. Harding kindly placed at our disposal a few facts connected with their flight, which will serve to show the decided anti-foreign feeling existing among not only the lower element of Chinese in the province, but also among those who sit in authority over them.

The party were the largest number of a band of missionaries (the others having escaped in the direction of the Burma frontier) labouring in the Yunnan Province, and for some years had continued their work for the most part unmolested by any of the populace, although for the past year or so there had been indications of a hostile spirit among the lower orders, which apparently only required a little prompting from their superiors to fan the embers of bitterness into a flame. The missionaries, however, continued their visiting and the many other duties devolving upon them, until the happening of the events which led up to their escape from the prefectural city on June 14th. Prior to this there had been loud whisperings of murder and pillage in the public thoroughfares, and for nearly a month small howling mobs used to collect in groups discussing the best means to carry out their nefarious designs. It is stated that this was engendered by the action of the French Consul in refusing to allow certain packages which he had brought into the city from Mengtse to be examined by the Chinese authorities, who openly asserted that he had with him a large quantity of guns and ammunition. To this charge he appeared to have been silent, and that only tended to aggravate the authorities, while his stern refusal to allow an inspection to be made strengthened their belief that they were contraband goods, in the shape of rifles, revolvers, and cartridges. He refused, however, to yield, and it was reported throughout the city that he had struck one of the searching party who had been sent specially to examine the packages by the Governor himself. Eventually he succeeded in getting his packages through without the usual inspection, and a few hours afterwards placards of an inflammable nature were posted on the walls round and on the South Gate, where a mob of several thousands had already congregated. It was openly asserted that evening

that the French Consul would be murdered, and the mob, among themselves, discussed the best means of doing to death the man whom they considered had not only wilfully violated their law, but had beaten one of their leaders. Information as to this resolve reached the French Consul, and he decided to leave Yunnan-fu, with his staff, on June 14th. Among those whom he arranged to take with him were the French missionaries, but the Governor and the officials at the Yamen protested at this, and it was not till some hours afterwards that the Chinese gave way and the Consular party were given an escort through the South Gate. Meanwhile the British missionaries were deliberating what steps they should take to secure their safety, and Mr. Harding, who was holding a service in the mission church, decided to stay for the time being, until matters assumed a more threatening form. He had not long to wait, for his "boy," almost at the close of the service, rushed into the building, and stated that the rioters had finally decided to kill all the foreigners. Mr. Harding then ordered a sedan chair and made the best of his way to his house, where Mrs. Harding was alone. On the way he had to pass the South Gate, and was there delayed for half-an-hour by one of the coolies stating he had to get a new pair of sandals. There, in the centre of a fierce and vicious mob numbering into thousands, he was fixed, but fortunately no one attempted to remove the coverings of the chair so as to expose him to view. He could hear the murderous threats of the mob, and when at last he did arrive home he found that they had banded together and were proceeding towards the house. Fortunately two sedan chairs were obtained, and in them both Mr. and Mrs. Harding sat, while the "boy" followed on behind to guide the coolies in their steps towards the Yamen. Reaching the mob they passed through, one of the crowd tearing down a portion of Mr. Harding's chair covering, but happily only exposing the feet. Mrs. Harding's chair covering was taken completely off, and she became the subject of the gibes and jeers of the fiercest nature. Eventually they reached the Yamen, where they found their fellow-missionaries, who had passed through similar experiences. From there they could view the looting of their homes, and subsequently their burning to the ground. The mission chapel and the Roman Catholic College were also looted, and reduced to ashes. It was some days after this that the flight from the city took place, and notwithstanding all the entreaties which were brought to bear, an escort to the border was only provided when the missionaries agreed to accept, with the consent of their Consul, an indemnity for the wrong done them. Then followed a six weeks' journey on horse-back, through villages where people jeered and used murderous threats, and over plains where occasionally men would be met ready to attack if opportunity offered. A greater part of the journey had to be done alone, for the prefects absolutely refused to render any assistance, or provide an escort as a protection against the villanous soldiery. Their attitude was, as Mr. Harding said, "Go away; we don't want you," and other expressions were used of a far more hostile character. The rioting at Yunnan-fu, the traveller continued, was only suppressed by the authorities when every vestige of property had been looted and the buildings rendered heaps of ruins. Some were beheaded, it was true, but not until the damage had been done. For instance, one man was found with a portion of Mrs. Harding's clothing, and he was instantly beheaded and his head hung up on a pole outside the ruined house. Prince Tuan, another of the travellers stated, only a few weeks ago, sent a telegram to the Governor asking him to massacre all foreigners, but the latter delayed taking any immediate action. The Provincial Treasurer was constantly in telegraphic communication with Li Hung-chang, his uncle, praying for advice, and it was (the rescued party believed) through Li's instructions that they were enabled to leave the city safely.

COMMUNICATION WITH PEKING.

The telegraph Companies on the 11th issued the following Express:—

The Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration notifies us as follows:—"Since despatches

have come through safely at different times from Peking via Tsinanfu by couriers, attempts will be made to forward on messages for Peking by same route at ordinary rate plus three dollars (\$3.00) for courier service. Messages, however, will be subject to delay and are only accepted at sender's risk."

THE RIOTING NEAR SWATOW.

Consul-General Wildman is in receipt of a cable from the Rev. A. F. Groesbeck of the American Baptist Mission, Swatow, dated 10th inst., which says:—"Three more chapels demolished. Much looting, house, chapel. Preacher's life attempted. Officials taking no action."

PEKING MESSAGES OF THE 21st ULT.

We published on the 10th inst. the text of a message from Minister Conger at Peking on the 21st ult. to the U. S. Consul at Tientsin. The following is the text of a message sent off on the same day by Sir Claud Macdonald:—"From June 20th to July 16th repeated attacks by Chinese troops on all sides, both rifle fire and artillery, including two 3-inch Krupp guns. Since 16th July armistice, but cordon strictly drawn, both sides strengthening positions. We hold at present following line:—200 yards wall Tartar City, South of American Legation. Russian and British Legations, half of Park opposite East of latter, also French and German Legations. All outside this line burnt, and ruins held by Chinese, whose barricades are close to ours. All women and children in British Legation. Food sufficient for fortnight at most. Ammunition running short. Casualties to date:—62 killed, including Strouts (Captain of Marines), David Oliphant, Warren, and double that number wounded in hospital, including Halliday (Captain of Marines). Rest of Legation all well. Important that relief force when near should advance rapidly to prevent attack on Legations by retreating Chinese forces. Yesterday we refused a renewed demand to leave Peking and proceed to Tientsin."

Other messages from various Minister were brought to Tientsin on the 27th ult. by the same messenger who conveyed the above. A correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News summarizes them thus:—

The gist of the other messages was that the missionaries were uninjured, but the missions destroyed. The Customs staff and families were uninjured. The Chinese approached the British Minister under a flag of truce, and proposed a cessation of hostilities. The Ministers agreed, provided the Chinese made no advance. Treachery is feared. On the 3rd July, Captain Myers, American Marines, made a wonderful sortie, capturing guns and standards. He was wounded slightly. The Chinese were also badly defeated when they attempted a night attack. Foreigners hold Legation Street from the French to the American Legation and the British on the North. All are working at barricades, trenches, and fighting, and are nearly worn out. The Chinese seem to be short of ammunition. Our Marines have fought like tigers against fearful odds. Only Chinese cowardice prevented their hordes of savages massacring our nationals.

GENERAL ITEMS.

General Gaselee has reported that three hospital ships will be required at his base. They will be the *Maine*, the *Carthage* and the vessel to be presented by the Maharajah Scindia.

The Government of India have placed on record an expression of their warm acknowledgements of the generous action of the Atlantic Transport Company, and the American ladies in sending the *Maine* to China for the use of Indian troops.

In regard to the three regiments, the raising of which has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State to replace the battalions on service outside India, two are likely to be raised from Sikhs below the height required for existing regiments.

The 34th Pioneers have been ordered to China to take the place of the 14th Sikhs, detained on account of cholera.

The party under Captain Davies now making their way from Yunnan to Shanghai will, on arrival at the latter port, be attached to General Gaselee's force, Captain Davies being appointed Special Service officer, Captain Ryder to survey work and Major Manifold for medical duty.

The contingent of bullocks from India for the heavy Artillery with the China Force will comprise 1,300 animals. India also sends horses for the balloon section. A reserve of one hundred Artillery horses and five hundred cobs has been applied for to replace casualties in the Cavalry Brigade.

For the transport of 1,056 heavy draught bullocks from Calcutta to China four additional steamers will have to be employed in consequence of the animals (unlike horses and mules) requiring lying-down space.

A late telegram from Simla states that the War Office has been asked to send out an additional nine-hundred tons of fodder monthly for the China Force.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company are preparing to make arrangements for the transport of Canadians from Quebec to Hongkong.

The U.S. transport *Sumner* arrived at Nagasaki on the 10th inst. from San Francisco, with troops and details from North China. Brigadier-General Barry is on board, and on his arrival at Taku will assume the duties of Adjutant-General of the U.S. forces in China.

The Italian men-of-war, *Napoli* and *Marco Polo*, are on their way out to the Far East.

In addition to the German fleet now up North a torpedo-boat flotilla is on its way out from Bremerhaven. The German cruisers *Nympe* and *Niobe* have left Kiel, and are expected to arrive here early next month. Besides these, the German cruiser *Seeadler* is going up North from Australia, and the cruiser *Geier* from the West American station is also going to China. The German hospital-ship *Gera*, from Wils helmshaven, is expected soon, en route for the North, as also are the German transport-*Aachen*, *Halle*, *H. H. Meier*, *Strassburg*, *Dresden*, and *Rhein*, all from Bremerhaven.

The German man-of-war *Fürst Bismarck*, has, it is reported, been specially fitted up to take in liquid fuel instead of coal.

Orders have arrived at Odessa that the 13th Division quartered in the Odessa Military District is to be prepared to embark for the Far East, and three cruisers attached to the Russian Volunteer Fleet are being fitted up to receive the men.

A report was current on the other side of the Pacific, when the last mail left, that the Togo Kisen Kaisha's steamer *America Maru* is to be passed over to the United States for use as an army transport.

It has been decided to send on the U.S. transport *Grant*, for service in China, an additional battalion of Marines under the command of Major Biddle.

THE SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' CHINA RELIEF FUND.

The total amount subscribed to this fund, in answer to the appeal of Mrs. Scott in our columns, is \$415.00. This sum has been placed in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, in the name of the above fund, and we shall be very pleased to hand it over to a local public committee when one is formed, as no doubt one will be formed shortly. In the meantime, pending the formation of that Committee, we shall be pleased to receive and acknowledge any subscriptions, which will be placed to the credit of the above account at the Bank. No further information being forthcoming concerning the existence of an old China War Relief Fund, we assume that such a fund was long since closed. Therefore, as no balance may be expected to be derived from that source, the appointment of a Public Committee for the new Fund might be proceeded with without delay.

The Portuguese in Shanghai appear to be between—well—their Consul and the Municipal Council. The Portuguese offered their services as Volunteers, but the Council's reply was so preposterous that they could not accept the terms. Then their Consul was requested by his Government to arm two hundred of them. We don't know how it happened, but that scheme also was knocked on the head, and the Consul now threatens to "confiscate all munitions or implements of war landed or stored by any of his nationals." All we can say is that the state of affairs is most undignified.—*The Union*.

PRESENTATION AT THE "SOLDIERS' CLUB."

So much having been said of late about the "Absent Minded Beggar," such an instance of thoughtfulness as occurred at the Soldiers' Club on the evening of Friday, the 3rd inst., should not be allowed to pass unrecorded. On some details being told off some few days since for the North China Field Force, Pte. Connor, A.O.C., presented himself, among others, for medical examination prior to embarking, and unfortunately for him was found to be suffering from valvular heart-disease. The man having had a sedentary post, (clerk in the Ordnance Dept.) and not in the habit of taking violent exercise presumably considered himself in the best of health, and felt highly elated at the prospect of seeing some active service, and his feelings may be better imagined than described; however, it is highly creditable that some of his fellow-members of the Soldiers' Club and comrades showed their sympathy in a very solid manner. A subscription was started at 11 p.m. on Thursday the 2nd, and the next evening the subscribers had the pleasure of meeting together on the cool and brilliantly illuminated verandah of the Club, and presenting their respected departing comrade with a handsome watch and chain, and a pocket book containing \$36. The presentation, at the request of the members, was made by the manager, Mr. Terrill, who referred to the departing member in highly eulogistic terms, wishing him a pleasant passage home, and a happy restoration to health that would be probably consequent on the change of climate. The recipient then responded in very feeling terms, after which his health was drunk with musical honours. After the formal proceedings, the members and friends settled themselves down for a convivial evening. At 11.15 p.m. the programme having come to an end, the members terminated what was considered to be one of the best functions ever held in the Soldiers' Club. Those principally responsible for the arrangements were: Pte. Woods A.O.C. and Pte. Palmer A.S.C. Such proceedings as these must be highly gratifying to those responsible for the inception of the Club.—*Contributed*.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE THE NEW GOVERNOR.

Macao, 10th August.
Many people here yesterday were watching for the arrival of the cruiser *Adamastor*, which was due to arrive in the harbour any moment, but their curiosity had not yet been gratified when these lines were posted. Grand preparations are also being made on the Praya Grande arches, flags, etc., being put up for the reception of His Excellency Senhor Horta e Costa. He is not however, coming here directly, but is going to call in your port first, where the *Gazengo* is due to arrive on Saturday and where he will stay for one or two days, and there the cruiser *Adamastor* will receive him and bring him to Macao. The *Gazengo* after leaving His Excellency will follow with the troops to Macao. There is a rumour that Senhor Horta e Costa's stay in Hongkong is for the purpose of having a conference with your Governor. The arrival of Senhor Horta e Costa is most welcome to the inhabitants of this Colony, who know how much interest His Excellency takes in all that concerns the welfare of Macao. All the improvements we see were made by him, while his successor Senhor Galhardo did nothing of the kind, but left all in great neglect for three long years. No doubt Senhor Horta e Costa will now see that many ideas he had before his last departure from this Colony are put now into execution. It is sincerely hoped that His Excellency will have a good time of it during his term of office here, and that his administration will be as lucky as ever, not only for his own satisfaction, but also for the inhabitants of the Colony.

At 8.30 on the night of the 11th there died at Macao Mr. C. Milisch, a very old resident in that colony. Mr. Milisch leaves one daughter. The cause of his death was apoplexy.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 11th August.

INSPECTING THE DEFENCES.

Yesterday Generals Ma Kai Tong, (heang Yung Chai, and Mok Chick Sin, the two commanders Mo and Li of the Kwong Hip and Ohung Hip regiments, and Prefect Chan went by the gunboat *Kwangyin* to inspect the forts at the Boca Tigre Islands and see to preparations for defence.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR PEKING.

Admiral Fung Sui Ting, of Yunnan, who distinguished himself by bravery at Leangshan during the Franco-Chinese war, has been ordered to take 10,000 troops to Peking. On his way through Yanchow he is said to have collected more men.

THE BLACK FLAGS AND THEIR MARCH NORTH.

The Black Flag general, Liu Yung-fu, is going North on the 12th inst., taking with him 8,000 troops to protect the Imperial Palace, while Ma Kai Tong, the late military Commander of Koochow, and General Mok Chick Sin are to take the command of the native army in Canton. Chang (hih-tung, Viceroy of Hunan and Hupeh, having ascertained that the Black Flag chief and 8,000 troops are going to the North by the route of Pak Kong (North River), sent a telegram to the Acting Viceroy here, asking him to order Liu Yung-fu to take the West River route, as he does not like to see his territory infested with Black Flags, who might cause trouble with the foreigners.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG'S NEW TAX.

Chang Chih-tung has invented a new method of taxation: instead of the rent drawn from landlords and tenants, as in Canton, he taxes 20 cents upon every dollar's worth of cash that his people change, the money changer paying half and the person who requires change another half.

RUMOURS.

It is reported that the anti-foreign general Li Ping-heng has taken the command of 30,000 troops and will proceed to Yang Chuan to resist the advance of foreign troops to Peking. News from Shanghai has been received, to the effect that Li Hung-chang is appointed by an Imperial edict Minister Plenipotentiary to negotiate terms of peace with foreign Powers; but the latter refuse to recognise him until they have effectually carried out their promised exemplary punishment.

"WHEN THE CAT'S AWAY"

Since Li left, robbery seems increasing daily, although armed soldiers have been patrolling about the streets from morn till evening and the street gates have been carefully shut and strictly watched.

THE LEKIN MONOPOLISTS.

There has been a lot of trouble between the mandarins and the *lekin* monopolists, the latter having failed to pay up the last instalment of the monopoly money, and the bill they gave having been dishonoured. It is said that the four *lekin* representatives of the 72 guilds are in great danger, for the officials threaten to imprison them and cut off their heads.

ALL SOULS' DAY.

The feasts of All Souls is celebrated during this month: in every principal street large bamboo structures have been erected and altars put up, covered with embroidery, pot-plants, flower baskets, and curious silk-dressed and paper effigies representing different scenes from dramas, etc. Bands of musicians are kept playing nearly the whole day and night, and Buddhist priests saying prayers for the repose of the souls in purgatory. In one small matshed attacked to the main bamboo structure is a large joss, 20 feet high, made of bamboo and paper, hideously painted, to represent the King of Hades. Before this women and children whose parents, brothers, or sisters, husbands or lovers are dead, go to worship, burn joss papers, and weep and lament their fate. Every night there are processions of joss-boats ten or twelve or more in a line, nicely illuminated with coloured lanterns, towed by a launch steaming up and down the river, with priests in them chanting prayers and burning joss-papers to propitiate the water spirits. The spectacle is very fine.

Canton, 12th August.

CHINESE VIEWS REGARDING THE PRESENT CRISIS.

The following are the views of certain prominent Chinese on the situation.

In the disturbances up north, they say, soldiers and outlaws have been so mixed up as to render the task of suppression and protection very difficult. The murder of the German Minister and the Japanese Chancellor was of necessity followed by an outbreak of war between the Foreign Powers and China, the taking of Taku forts, the blockade of the river, and the destruction of Tientsin shows that Peking is not only in imminent danger, but it is like an egg about to be crushed to pieces by a huge stone. Although the Foreign Powers professed that they would not take China nor injure her people, their marching the troops on Peking does not show any good intention. Perhaps they like to march their troops to Peking to show their bravery. No doubt the burning of the churches, the massacre of Christians, the attack upon the foreign concessions and the murder of a Minister are injuries that go right into the core of their hearts and pierce their bones, so that they cannot rest satisfied until the Boxers are completely destroyed. Still it is the fault of China for which she feels deeply sorry and repentant. China has nursed a boil which has now turned into a carbuncle. The Boxers are only a lawless crowd prone to do evil, and there ought not to have been any difficulty destroying them; but as their influence has taken a deep root, and is spreading, China cannot destroy it so quickly; it is like a small spark that ignites and spreads itself out into a big fire that injures China as well as foreign countries, for which, the officials whoever they be, cannot plead any excuses. Imperial edicts have repeatedly appeared, one after another, in the newspapers, showing the friendly intention and respect of China for the foreign Powers, and urging the speedy suppression of Boxers; but as the lawlessness of the insurgents has assumed such magnitude, the military forces are insufficient to cope with them: hence we see the motives that compel the Powers to send their troops to the North. Imperial mandates have been sent to the Viceroys and Governors of nearly all the provinces, urging them to despatch troops north, and when the large bodies of troops arrive they will certainly sweep out all these fiendish and heretical monsters, so as to avenge the wrongs done to foreign Powers.

THE QUESTION OF THE MINISTERS.

But the most important personages are the Ministers; so long as we keep them in confinement, no overture for peace would be for a moment listened to, and when their big troops arrive it will be too late for talk; consequently the keeping of their Ministers at Peking is also a source of great danger to us. The Viceroys of the provinces have received instructions from the Imperial Government informing them that the foreign Ministers are safe, and the Legations well protected, and have given repeated assurance of the same to the Consuls of the different nations. Is it not reliable enough until the Ministers are seen marching under escort out of Peking? Who can tell what may happen on their way out. The Boxers are everywhere and are not yet entirely suppressed, and the forces of the Imperial army are weak; if anything happens to them it will be worse still. This is the motive which the foreign Powers should take into consideration. No doubt the Powers have justifiable suspicions, which are these: (1) However thick are the city gates, and however high the great walls, they are not as strong as a golden city. Is there any guarantee that the Boxers who are sneaking even in the Imperial harem could not have penetrated into the stronghold? (2) If the Ministers are safe in Peking, as it is said that they are, why on earth are they not allowed to send letters in their own manuscript, each to his country to satisfy his Sovereign? To this day no such letters have been sent. Where is the proof? These are the two circumstances which cause a great suspicion to the foreign Powers. Having these suspicions in their minds, notwithstanding the repeated assurance of all the Viceroys and Governors that they are safe, that the Legations are well protected, and that they will use also their best endeavours to protect the foreigners as well in their provinces, how is it possible to

expect them to withdraw their troops? Upon our Emperor appealing to the Emperor of Japan for mediation and protection, the latter in reply says that if the foreign Ministers were alive and safe, every other thing could be easily arranged. Unless China does not wish to come to terms of peace, she ought to have sent the Ministers out under strong escorts, so as to satisfy the Powers that she is not lying. If she really had those Ministers under her protection, as she had openly declared that she had, then she shows no intention of hostility which the foreign Powers ought to take into account. Delay not! Take immediate action to have the Ministers sent out under strong escorts so as to gain the confidence of the world.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 9th August.

FRESH ATTACKS ON MISSIONS.

Last night word came of the destruction of four more chapels in the Ung-kung (Hwang-kong) district, viz. the E.P. and A.B. chapels in Kaw-thong, and the A. B. chapels in Sian-tung and Shak-kew-san. In several instances the houses of church members were looted and everything taken except the clothes on their backs. The authorities seem paralyzed. The Roman Catholic priest at Ung-kung, the Rev. Alexando Legros, is said to have hired a large number of armed men to defend the premises of the Jesuit Mission with those who have taken refuge there.

BRITISH CRUISER ARRIVES.

A British cruiser the *Mokawak*, I believe—came in this morning, and this fact when known will doubtless have a good influence. The prefect of Chow-chou-fu on being asked to protect mission property in that city would only say that he would do what he could in a quiet way, but would take no measures involving publicity!

DESTRUCTION AT SO-LAI.

10th August.

News came yesterday of the destruction of the American Baptist chapel at So-lai. After looting it the mob tore it down and utterly demolished it. In some respects this mob marks an advance in lawless ways. Many were armed and they sought diligently for the native preacher to kill him. He escaped out of their hands, but his wife and little girls were not so fortunate. They stripped her and let her go, but started to carry off the children, though they soon let them go also. So-lai is in the Ung-kung district. As yet there are no reports of rioting in other sections. It is to be feared that some of these mobs may add murder to theft, if allowed to go unchecked.

THE MOVEMENT SPREADS.

11th August.

News comes to-day of the destruction of two more chapels, viz. those at Lai-pu-soa and the *hien* city. At Lai-pu-soa the houses of the native Christians were looted before the chapel was attacked. It is rumoured that the officials at Ungkung have arrested three persons supposed to be connected with these riots. There are very few chapels left standing in the entire *hien* of Jiaw-pheng.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT]

Swatow, 11th August.

I am just informed that at the looting of the Ungkung missionary chapel several outrages were committed by the roughs on the native Christians, foremost of them being the case of a convert whose eyes were bored out by one of the roughs. It appears that when the roughs informed the elders of the adjacent villages that they intended pillaging and destroying the chapels, the elders asked them to await the news as to events up North. They said that if the Allies got beaten, then naturally the chapels would all fall to their lot, but if the Allies were successful in their march, then the inhabitants of the villages would have to pay very dearly for the foreign property destroyed. This argument of the elders had in some cases a convincing effect.

THE TAOTAI.

Our local Taotai, Shin Shai Lin, is, according to general opinion, very friendly towards foreign-

ers and never tires in his efforts to keep the country under his jurisdiction quiet and undisturbed. Unfortunately he isn't successful in this respect, as events have already shown; and now I have it on the best authority that he has applied to the Acting Viceroy of Canton for sick-leave on the plea of suffering from sore eyes. The Taotai no doubt perceives trouble in the near future, and is therefore endeavouring to get out of here and so have no blame attached to him for any unlooked-for occurrence. It behoves the persons responsible for the safety of the foreigners here to take warning from the Taotai's new intention of leaving his post.

A WIDE-AWAKE OFFICIAL.

The Acting Viceroy Tak of Canton is to all appearances well informed as to what happens in his Province, for on hearing of the looting of the different chapels and general disturbances he wired to the Taotai here to capture the ringleaders of the roughs and have them beheaded. This action speaks volumes of praise for the Acting Viceroy Tak, but unfortunately the authorities here have so far not succeeded in getting hold of the ringleaders.

BOXERS REPORTED ON THEIR WAY.

It appears that an employee (Chinese) in one of the local shipping firms had an intimation from the opium farmer at Chowchowfu that the Boxers are a hundred miles distant from Swatow. Although much reliance cannot be put on this piece of news it nevertheless is imperative to be on the alert, for one fine day we may be astonished to see the Boxers in our midst.

SUSPENSE.

Great anxiety prevails here as to the safety of the foreigners if any are there—at Peking, and we look impatiently forward to the news of the arrival of the Relieving Force there. Speaking about the present situation to one of the well educated Chinese I was told that in his opinion, should the Allies get the slightest reverse on the march to Peking, then we may expect, on the news spreading, a general uprising in the whole empire of China. I need but add that the said Chinaman belongs to the Reform party.

SMALL COINS.

Your readers may very likely not know that the Northern crisis has affected the intrinsic value of the 10 and 20 cents pieces of the Northern mints, as the native dealers here refuse acceptance of these small coins and in some cases only give 180 to 185 copper cash.

A LITTLE BY-PLAY.

The crisis up North offers itself as a fitting opportunity to practice the game of fraud, and Swatow was this time in it as well. A certain Mr. C— arrived here not so very long ago and gave himself out as being sent by the British Government to engage 1,000 coolies for transport work at Tientsin. Mr. C— took residence in one of the local Compradore's stores and after 3 or 4 days stay here did the "vanishing act" and went to Amoy. It appears that he neither paid for his board and lodgings and besides borrowed \$30 from his landlord, which he didn't pay. On hearing of Mr. C—'s sudden departure the landlord proceeded to Amoy, where he found to his dismay that Mr. C— had been arrested by the British Consul for debts. The landlord related the above to me and told me that it meant a loss of over \$50 to him.

Later.

GOOD NEWS.

A wire was received from Amoy by Mr. Richardson of Bradley and Co. this morning, which brought the welcome news that Mr. Simpson, Commissioner at Amoy, had received positive news as to the safety of the British Legation and its inmates at Peking.

At Shanghai on the 5th inst., as Surgeon James Stoughton, U.S. Navy, of the U.S.S. *Castine*, was returning on board about 12 o'clock, in company with a brother officer, in stepping into a sampan he slipped and went overboard. A strong ebb tide was running and he was swept under some adjacent junks. The officer with him dived after him, without success. The body was recovered next day. Doctor Stoughton served for some time on the U.S.S. *Monocacy*. He was for three years at the Naval Hospital, Yokohama, and it has been five years since he left the United States for duty on this station.

THE "PIONEER'S" TRIP DOWN THE YANGTZE.

Ichang, 5th August.

The *Pioneer* arrived here to-day from Chungking looking like a Margate excursion steamer, so crowded was her deck with passengers. She was indeed carrying nearly 100 Europeans, including children and ship's officers. For though she started at daybreak on the 3rd with only the British Consul, Commissioner and staff, and about 17 others, until reaching the gorges she stopped every houseboat with Europeans. There were thus on arrival all 25 of the American Methodist Mission, a large company of Canadians and China Inland, the eleven of the Friends' Mission, two of the London Mission, one or two Bible Agents, together with Dr. Laville, who has been acting Chancellor at Chungking, and has now offered his services as an army doctor for the forces in the north, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Little, Mr. Bush and Mr. Hancock.

No effort seems to have been made to bring away Mr. and Mrs. Davis from Wanhhsien, although known as a turbulent city, and it is understood that 123 British subjects, mostly women and children, are still left behind in the West of China. They had all been telegraphed to leave their homes, when they thought themselves safe, but, owing to the distance at which they lived, had not yet succeeded in reaching Chungking when the British Consul left in the *Pioneer*. Not even the 34 members of the Church Mission, who are understood to have acted with the greatest promptitude, and had been hourly expected for two days, were in time.

Mr. Hyslop, of the China Inland, remained behind to see Bishop Cassels and his party through. There are understood to be several very sick among them, and all have to change their boats at Chungking. Mr. Nicolson, in business with Mr. Little, and Prof. Brill, American from Wuchang, have remained behind to help to see the women and children safe. M. Bons D'Anty, the French Consul, and the Japanese Consul are understood to be still at their posts, the Japanese Consul having his wife and child with him. The latter are, however, believed to be leaving to-day.

The *Pioneer* came down with the greatest ease, and apparently much to the satisfaction of all on board. Several of the passengers appeared, however, to regret the comfortable passage-boats out of which they had been summarily hustled, as many were unprovided with berths, and the rain pouring during the night, the deck did not offer a good sleeping place.

As there are three river steamers in port, it is to be hoped all will find accommodation somewhere for the further trip. Chungking and the West generally seem to have been absolutely quiet up to the date of the steamer's leaving.

Mr. M. F. A. Fraser would not allow any of the passengers to land till some hours after their arrival at Ichang, he meanwhile discussing the situation with Capt. Hillman of the *Woodlark* and Mr. Wilton, our Consul. There is, however, nothing going on here.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

LITERATURE FOR THE WOUNDED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—I have to thank you for inserting my previous appeal, and also those who so readily responded. But we have to continue this good work, and therefore I once again venture to ask you to be good enough to bring the matter before the generous public, and they will respond yet more generously. Will those who see this note please send the parcels addressed "North China Field Force" to Messrs. Watson & Co., who will continue to receive them as before?—Yours, etc.,

C. BONE,
Wealeyan Chaplain.

The House of Commons on the 26th ult. rejected Mr. Souttar's motion that a generous grant be made to India on account of the China Expeditionary Force, on the score of inexpediency.

AN IMPORTANT CASE.

HO TUNG & CO. CLAIM THAT AMERICAN PRODUCTS SHOULD ENTER MANILA FREE.

Washington papers of the 9th ult. state:—Ho Tung & Co., of Hongkong, to-day filed a petition in the Court of Claims, through Ralston & Siddons, asking for a refund of moneys paid as import duties, port and other charges, all amounting to \$32,945.33, on two cargoes of American products shipped to Manila in August, 1898. They have their claim on the fact that the President's proclamation of July 12, 1898, established certain tariff rates, and that the tariff did not provide for port and other charges permissible under the former Spanish tariff. They claim that it was not the intention of the President that any tariff should be levied on American products. The petition adds, "Nor was it within the power of the President to enforce a tariff as against such products."

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on Monday, the 20th August, at 12 o'clock. To the Shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you their Report, with a Statement of Accounts for the half-year ended 30th June last. The net profit for the six months, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$598,028.30 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last Account 340,869.36

938,897.66

and from this have to be deducted—

Directors' Fees .. \$8,000.00
Auditors' Fees .. 750.00
8,750.00

leaving available for appropriation... \$929,647.66

The Directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 8 per cent. or \$125,000 and a bonus of 12 per cent. or \$187,500 aggregating \$312,500 be paid to the Shareholders, a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, that \$223,978.17 be written from the value of the Kowloon Docks, \$11,932.74 from the Cosmopolitan Dock, \$5,000 from Steam Launches and the balance \$356,236.75 be carried to the new account.

The Board is of opinion that having in view the permanent interests of the Company, it is desirable to deal with the surplus earnings in the manner shown above.

The large turn over at our establishments during the past half-year must be highly gratifying to Shareholders, indicating the steady expansion and prosperity of the Company's business, and confirming the policy followed by your Directors in providing with as little delay as possible, increased docking facilities and larger workshops more suited to our requirements.

The improvements and extensions referred to in the last report are now well in hand, and are being pushed forward to the utmost of our ability. The new blacksmith shop at Kowloon was completed and has been occupied since January last; it has proved a most valuable acquisition to our resources.

J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 11th August, 1900.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.	
ASSETS.	
30th June, 1900.	\$ c.
Aberdeen.	
To value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement.	100,000.00
Kowloon.	\$ c.
To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement.	1,370,029.89
Less amount since written off.	70,029.89
	1,300,000.00
To amount paid on account of removal of hill on the new extension Kowloon marine lot No. 27.	1,461.08

CONSULAR REPORT.

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. H. A. C. Bonar's report on the trade of Yokohama states that the trade of the port for 1899 amounted to £18,902,897, as against £19,531,254 in 1898. "This slight decrease, however," he says, "does not on the face of it indicate a decrease of some 30 per cent. on the imports of 1898, and of 12 per cent. on those of 1897. Exports, on the other hand, show an increase of 34 per cent. over last year, and a substantial increase over 1897. In order to make a real comparison in the matter of the imports; it is necessary to make an allowance of, say, 15 per cent. to be deducted from the customs returns for 1899, which, since the date of the imposition of the new tariff, return the values of imports as including freight, insurance and commission, so that in reality a decrease in imports of nearly £5,000,000 has taken place in 1899. No importance need, however, be attached to that fact, in view of the special influence which the enforcement of the new tariff had on the imports of 1898, which were quite in excess of their normal amount, and of the satisfaction generally felt by importers with the results of the import trade of the year under review."

The trade in imports, continues Mr. Bonar, was generally satisfactory to all concerned, and the prospects continue good. The demand, however, for metals particularly, has slackened off since the year closed, owing principally to full supplies in sight and very high costs to replace. The value of cotton yarns is some £235,000 less than in 1898. "Nevertheless, the condition of that trade has improved in some respects during the year. A rising market, with better clearances, has given a fair profit to both importers and dealers. Yarns made from Egyptian cotton, both plain and gassed, still hold their own with consumers here, and a good average trade has been done in them. Yarns made from American fibre have also received some benefit from various exceptional causes, but the outlook for the future predicts that Japan will depend on her own mills for this class of yarns, and that the consumption of Lancashire spinning will further decrease." Woollen cloth fell about 5 per cent. from 1898, but a much larger proportion of better cloth was imported. With regard to sugar, Mr. Bonar says that the closing months of 1898 saw a rush of sugar in from all quarters to escape the increased tariff which came into operation on January 1, 1899. "This tended to make the imports of 1898 abnormally large, and the year 1899 commenced with heavy stocks of all kinds of sugars, more especially of Continental beets, and the produce of the Hong-kong refineries. Until these could be worked off imports for a time were light, and throughout the year have been on a moderate scale, yet trade has in no way diminished, for consumption has continued to grow, and has taken off all accumulated supplies and subsequent arrivals." Kerosene oil fell off also owing to accumulated stocks.

Turning to exports, Mr. Bonar says:—"It is true that the exports of 1899 show a satisfactory increase when compared with 1898, but this is due to two accidental causes, the large advance in prices, and the consequent rushing forward of all available exports, for which the next year will have to suffer. Taking these facts into consideration, it would appear probable that Japan has, for the time being, reached the limit of her exportable products, and as commerce is, in its first principles, a system of barter, the nation which has no exports will not obtain imports, unless it has something else to offer as an equivalent." Raw silk showed an increase of 12 per cent. in quantity exported and of 15 per cent. in total value. The silk piece-good trade was unprecedented, both in quantity exported and in price. Prices advanced over 50 per cent. in the first eleven months, but dropped again 10 per cent. in December. The tea export trade suffers from the poor quality and manipulation of the tea, and the outlook for the Japanese leaf is consequently bad. The export of copper proved very profitable to mine-owners.

The foreign shipping entering the port is represented by 725 vessels of 1,615,754 tons, a large falling off from 1898 with 829 vessels of 1,715,951 tons. "Making every allowance for

the increase in 1898 consequent upon the large quantities of imports before the end of the year to avoid the new tariff, this falling-off is anything but satisfactory," says Mr. Bonar. "It is not confined alone to British shipping, which shows a falling-off of 127 vessels and 221,650 tons, or some 23 per cent. of the tonnage, for 1898, for German shipping also shows a decrease of 28 vessels and 34,699 tons, or 19 per cent.; Hawaiian, 3 ships of 14,196 tons (accounted for by the transfer of steamers to the American flag); and French, Russian, and Norwegian shipping a proportionate decrease. The American flag alone shows an increase of 14 ships and 32,374 tons, to be accounted for by the more regular running of the Trans-Pacific steamers on the cessation of the Spanish-American War. Exclusive of Japanese shipping entered at Yokohama, British shipping constitutes 65.2 per cent. of the total foreign tonnage, being a decrease of 4.5 per cent. on 1898.

"Japanese shipping has again made a large trade, and has increased by fifty-nine vessels and 158,424 tons. Inclusive of Japanese shipping, British shipping represents 44.7 per cent.; Japanese 32.1, American 7.5, German 9, French 3.5, and Swedish and Norwegian 1 per cent."

In currency matters the most important feature of the year was the large exodus of gold from Japan to British India and America. This Mr. Bonar explains as follows:—

"When silk was much in demand and prices high, and a rise in exchange very generally and reasonably expected, the Specie Bank began to underbid the other banks for bills, with the result that with an unprecedented demand for money to pay for a large silk-crop at high prices, rates fell to a point which made gold shipments profitable. On September 8 the quotation for T.T. on London fell to 2s. 0½d., which, exclusive of interest, lays the rupee down at a fraction under 1s. 4d. clear, or taking the rupee T.T. rate at 1s. 4½d. would give the equivalent of a demand remittance from here of about 2s. 0½d."

The outlook of the present year, the report continues, so far as one can guess, is very favourable. Business generally has been healthy, unusually high prices have been attained for silk, and stocks of imports have been worked down low. If Japan can keep clear of foreign complication, her future would appear to be a bright one, and with the enormous trade of China at her doors her trade must continue to increase."

The new treaties with Japan came into force from August 4 last, and are not in themselves likely to have any special effect on the foreign trade of the country. The Japanese expectation that a large influx of foreign capital would result has proved quite fallacious, and the difficulties experienced in regard to the registration and transfer of land in the former foreign settlements are discouraging, even to those who have hitherto invested in Japan.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"A" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The August shoot took place on Kowloon range on the 13th inst., resulting in a win for Sergt. Lammert of the No. 1 Cup (2nd time) and for Gunner Wodehouse, of the No. 2 Cup. There were twenty-three competitors. The following are the best scores:—

	200	500	600	H'op. Tl.
Sergt. Lammert...	27	33	30	Sc. 90
Gunr. Wodehouse...	24	28	22	9 83
Bomb. Plummer...	26	23	23	10 82
Gunr. H. S. Holmes...	25	29	27	Sc. 81
Capt. Sanders...	25	26	14	14 79
Gunr. R. C. Edwards...	12	18	26	21 77
Gunr. P. A. Cox...	22	25	23	7 77
Bomb. W. King...	21	21	21	10 73

KOWLOON DETACHMENT (FIELD BATTERY.)

The sixth and final competition for the "Gillies" Cup took place on the Association Range, when Gunr. Lapsley won the Cup outright with the two best aggregates out of the series of six competitions, Gunr. Stewart not being a competitor. The following were the best aggregates:—

To amount paid on account of 16 new houses for European foremen	26,965.95
To amount paid on account of new iron store	42,979.00
To amount paid on account of cutting away hill at head of No. 1 Dock	1,783.44
To amount paid on account of fitting pumps, &c., No. 2 Dock	5,729.52
To amount paid on account of No. 3 Dock. Cost of one new Worthington steam pump and fitting same	3,109.69
To amount paid on account of new paint store	3,466.48
To amount paid on account of boiler shop and ship-building yard improvements	6,706.16
To amount paid on account of new fitting shop	27,875.91
To amount paid on account of new blacksmiths' shop	5,167.73
To amount paid on account of new forge	22,012.83
To amount paid on constructing new lavatories in yard for Europeans	655.48
To cost of one new 10 ton steam crane for new iron store	10,160.00
To cost of new machines for boiler shop	7,580.00
To cost of new machines for engine shop	17,629.00
To cost of new machines for new saw mill	1,095.00
To cost of new machines for blacksmiths' shop	11,890.00
To cost of new machines for new forge	27,800.00
	1,523,978.17
Cosmopolitan.	
To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement	350,021.91
Less amount since written off	50,021.91
	300,000.00
To amount paid for extension to fitting shop, sea wall and reclamation, new godowns, work shops, and new slipway	2,847.22
To cost of new machines for fitting shop	9,085.52
	311,932.74
Tug, launches, and lighters.	
To value of <i>Fame</i> as per last account	15,000.00
To value of 14 steam launches, steam lighter and boats, as per last account	30,000.00
Add, cost of 3 new launches and one cargo boat, less, one launch sold	20,074.00
	50,074.00
To Humphreys Estate and Finance Company 6 per cent. mortgage debentures	100,000.00
To sundry debtors	229,331.31
To cost of material on hand	1,716,528.01
	\$4,046,897.23
30th June, 1900. LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
By shareholders for 12,500 shares of \$125 each fully paid up	1,562,500.00
By reserve fund	900,000.00
By Admiralty loan	£20,000 0 0
Less re-payments	10,383 7 8
	£9,616.12.4 @ 1/11 3-18ths.
By sundry creditors	99,535.87
By balance of profit brought forward from last account	516,463.70
By profit	340,369.36
	598,028.30
	938,397.66
	\$4,046,897.23
REVENUE ACCOUNT.	
30th June, 1900.	\$ c.
To interest	7,940.39
To Crown rent	3,320.05
To fire insurance	2,650.16
To office expenses, salaries, stationery and rent of head office	33,230.26
To drawing office expenses and salaries	9,437.08
To telegrams	2,404.07
To legal expenses	376.50
To subscription to Indian Famine Relief Fund	500.00
To profit	598,028.30
	\$657,580.81
1st Jan. to 30th June, 1900.	\$ c.
By net earnings of the Company's three establishments	652,349.84
By tonnage, net earnings	4,100.29
By scrip fees	67.00
By bonus on premia, &c.	1,063.68
	\$657,580.81

	Best	Aggregates	Total
* Gnr. Stewart	95	102	197
Gnr. Lapaley	95	96	191
Sergt. Rutter	95	96	191
Gnr. Sayer	88	103	191
Corp. White	91	94	185
Bomb. Deas	89	93	182
* Gnr. Rattey	91	90	181
* Gnr. Baldwin	84	89	173
Gnr. Donaldson	76	90	166

* Scratch.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION

SHORT RANGE CUP AND SPOONS.

There was a very poor attendance at the range for this competition, which was brought to a close on the 11th inst., Ar-Sergt. Blair winning the Cup for the third time. It was very hot with a strong sun, and the scoring was not up to the average. Both Cup competitions are now closed, and practice for the annual Interport Match will shortly commence.

SCORES.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Handicap.	Total.
* Ar-Sergt. Blair	28	33	30	---	91
* Inspt. McLennan	23	31	29	---	83
Mr. Pidgeon	25	32	27	---	84
Mr. Mackenzie	23	31	27	---	81
Mr. Northcote	23	25	23	10	81
Mr. A. Watson	20	30	29	---	79

* Winners of Spoons.

REVIEWS.

The Triad Society, or Heaven and Earth Association. By WILLIAM STANTON. Hongkong. Kelly and Walsh.

MR. William Stanton's long acquaintance, as Police Detective Officer, with the Chinese brought him much in contact with the celebrated Triad Society, and his account of it in this book, reprinted from the *China Review*, is both ample and interesting. He begins with a short history of Chinese secret societies in general, which serves as a necessary introduction to the more detailed treatment of the Triad body, and proceeds to a description of the Triads in China and out of it, their traditional history, and an analysis of their ceremonies, signs, pass-words, etc. Mr. Stanton's work is marked by judgment and discrimination, as well as evincing a thorough knowledge of his subject. In his first chapter he gives a very full record of the great Taiping rebellion, compiled from the best available sources. Very justly he remarks: "The capricious fates had decreed that those who fought so bravely for their liberty and religion should be defeated by British men and guns, directed by one who was almost as great a fanatic as Hung Hsiu-ch'uan, and who, had he been born and educated as Hung Hsiu-ch'uan was, might well have inspired the same enthusiasm in his followers, and with his infinitely superior military genius delivered China from the Manchu yoke." It is indeed curious to reflect now what an unhappy effect Charles Gordon, acting with the best intentions, had on the history of China, more especially in her intercourse with foreign nations.

In his chapter on the Triad Society outside of China Mr. Stanton deals with the workings of this body in Hongkong, a subject which he is, of course, particularly fitted to treat. He says: "It is estimated that about a third of the male population of the Colony and many females are more or less active members. The difficulty of suppressing such an organisation, as well as the facilities it affords criminals for escaping from justice, will readily be seen. Of the members, many, no doubt, join because of the benefits they expect to derive in sickness and distress, and for mutual protection; others join to secure to themselves an immunity from oppression by the brotherhood, which, they suppose, they might otherwise have to endure; others join through mere curiosity; and others doubtless join in a patriotic spirit, with the hope of some day restoring a Chinese dynasty to their country. But on the whole there is far too much selfishness for patriotism to flourish in. The leading members seek profit and aggrandisement for themselves rather than to benefit the Society or their country. But the Society contains a dangerous element in the

great number of persons bound together by the same oaths and imbued with the same hatred of the Manchu power. And should a man arise from amongst them with the ability to bring all those who have sworn fidelity to the Society's cause to act in unity, and in accordance with their oaths, and to instil a feeling of enthusiasm into their bosoms, they would constitute a force whom the miserable soldiery of the South of China, many of whom are Triad men already, would melt away like snow in the sunshine, and the doom of the Manchu rulers would probably be sealed."

With the details about lodge-rooms, officers, initiatory ceremonies, signs, and test-words it is impossible to deal here. Mr. Stanton shows a minute and intimate knowledge of all such matters, which cannot fail to be of interest to all students of China. It may be noted that in rendering Chinese words into an English form Mr. Stanton has adopted the mandarin pronunciation alike in the historical and ceremonial parts of his book. He admits the doubt as to the advisability of doing so, but says "as about an equal number of the brotherhood are Cantonese, Fokienese, and Hakka, and only speak their own respective dialects," he thought it better to use mandarin rather than either of these.

The book is illustrated with diagrams of certificates of membership, etc., of the Triad Society, and in its get-up does credit to Messrs. Kelly and Walsh. We notice several misprints, but otherwise the work is admirable.

From Sandhill to Pine. By BRET HARTE. London, George Bell & Sons.

From Sandhill to Pine appears to be a collection of magazine stories by Bret Harte. Two at least we remember having read ourselves in serial form. We are glad, however, to have the opportunity of reading them again. There are altogether seven tales in the book, and though Bret Harte no longer writes with all the power which marked his early work, he never writes ill. "What Happened at the Fonda," "A Belle of 'añada City," and "A Treasure of the Redwoods" are all excellent types of the short story, and the whole book can be recommended to those who wish to be amused for a brief while.

HONGKONG.

Wong Po, a coolie in the employ of A. S. Watson, & Co., was sentenced on the 13th inst. to two months' hard labour for stealing 19 aerated water bottles.

On the 16th inst. Sergeant Garrod observed two men delivering letters in Wellington Street, and finding that the letters had entered the colony without coming through the post he took the offenders to the Central Police Station, and Mr. Hazeland fined them each \$100.

Sanitary Inspector E. Rogers had some trouble with some dust-cart coolies on the 16th inst. Two of them turned obstreperous, refused to work, and endeavoured to get the others to leave off. Mr. Rogers took them up to the Magistracy, where they were each fined \$10 for disorderly conduct.

To-day Mr. Hazeland gives his decision in the *Cheong Yuen* launch case. Mr. Reece contended on behalf of the crew that the goods, of which they are alleged to be in unlawful possession, were left on deck by the pirates who had gone on board as passengers, and that the defendants were innocent of the offence with which they were charged.

Inspector Cuthbert and a party of police who visited No. 1, Gough Street, found some men playing *pai kau* there. They arrested 12, all men occupying fairly good positions, and on the 15th Mr. Hazeland fined the keepers \$250 each and each of the others \$10. They alleged that the place was a private club, but Mr. Hazeland declined to be bamboozled by such a story.

An Indian constable who was on duty in Robinson Road at half-past seven a.m. on the 9th inst. saw two Chinamen carrying a bundle. He went towards them, and one of the men at once made off; the other stood by the bundle, which was found to contain 70 brass window fasteners. As he could give no satisfactory explanation as to how he came to be in possession of them, the constable took him into custody and on the 10th the man was sentenced to a month's hard labour.

About 100 coolies were engaged in the Commissariat yard on Tuesday afternoon, and at about one o'clock a coolie named Su Piu Tsung, who had evidently some grievance, shouted out to them not to work. He was making a great noise, and at the Magistracy on the 15th inst. Mr. Hazeland fined him \$10 or a month as a punishment.

A Chinese constable was in the Chater Road early on the 10th instant when he saw a man carrying a bundle. On his going towards him the man threw the bundle down and ran. The constable caught him, and took him and the bundle to No. 7 Police Station. The bundle was found to contain an opium-pipe, a jacket, and a pair of trousers. While the man was being interrogated the head coolie at No. 16, Chater Road, entered the station and reported that the house had been broken into. He identified the opium-pipe, etc., as belonging to him and two other men in the house. Seeing that there was no escape the man who had been arrested admitted his guilt. He was brought before Mr. Hazeland yesterday and on hearing that the culprit was an old offender, His Worship sentenced him to six months' hard labour, the last fortnight to be passed in solitary confinement.

The 8th inst. being a feast day among the Chinese, considerable quantities of samshu were drunk in the evening. Among those on the carouse were the coolies employed at the Government Civil Hospital. One of the coolies twitted another, saying that he could not stand drink. From words they came to blows, and when they separated for the night they were on anything but friendly terms. The following morning one of the coolies got up early to fetch his rice, and when passing his antagonist, who lay sleeping, he dug him in the stomach with the end of his pole. On awaking the injured man complained of feeling unwell. No report was made either to the doctors at the Hospital or to the police at the time. In the meantime the man's friends endeavoured to relieve him by applying various Chinese remedies, but seeing that these were of no avail, they reported the matter at the Hospital and the man was removed. He was found to be in a state of collapse and the police were sent for. Inspector Baker took the man's statement, and endeavoured to get hold of his assailant, who, however, had got clear away. It was about 11 o'clock in the morning when the police were informed, and the man died at about two o'clock in the afternoon.

At about a quarter past three a.m. on the 10th instant, Chinese constable 371 was on duty in Lower Lascar Row when he saw seven or eight men behaving in a disorderly manner. Among them were Li Ping and Hung Kau, who are employed at the German Tavern. He told them to go away, and by way of reply Li Ping struck him in the face. He blew his whistle and Chinese constable 163 came to his assistance. Hung Kau and several others set upon constable 163, trying to keep him away. Hung Kau knocked him down, snatched off his whistle and chain, and tore his coat, also snatching off his number. Constable 371 snatched the whistle from Wong Kan, blew it, and a European police sergeant came to their assistance. Li Ping and Hung Kau were taken into custody. At the Magistracy on the 10th Constable 163 said he was on duty in Queen's Road when he heard a whistle. He ran up to Lower Lascar Row, and when he got there he found a number of men beating constable 371. He got hold of the second defendant, who struck him on the cheek. He grabbed hold of his queue when the second struck him on the right cheek. The first defendant then caught hold of his hat and threw it away. The second defendant snatched away his whistle and threw it in the gutter, doing the same with his number, and tearing his coat. Then seven or eight men, including the second defendant, caught him by the queue and held him down to the ground. The second defendant struck him several times. Once he banged him in the abdomen, and as he did so he said, "If I ever catch you in Canton I'll kill you."—Mr. Hazeland made some strong remarks as to the conduct of the defendants. He said they must be taught that they could not assault police officers with impunity. The first defendant would be fined \$25, or a month, and second \$150, or three months, and in addition pay \$2 for damaging the constable's uniform. The fines were paid.

A scratch race of the Hongkong Boat Club will be held on Monday, 3rd September. The following are the crews:—

J. Hance	G. C. Fullerton	C. Herbst
A. Ellis	G. Young	J. Danley
G. R. Stevens	T. Will	J. Wilson
H. Bain	J. Winterburn	S. Stevens

On Sunday night Lance Sergeant Watt was on duty near Canton Wharf when he saw a man coming along with a bundle. On stopping him and searching the bundle he found it contained letters which the man was evidently going to take to Canton. He was charged with a breach of the Post Office Ordinance on the 13th inst. and fined \$100, or two months.

At Saikung on Sunday last an Indian constable saw a Chinaman, who was preceded by four other men, carrying a bag. He stopped the man carrying the bag, and on examining the latter found it contained 150 rounds of revolver ammunition. He accordingly arrested the man, and was about to take him away when the other men set upon him and the bag was taken from him. Ultimately the men ran away. He followed and re-arrested his prisoner and again secured the bag. At the Magistracy on the 14th inst. the man was fined \$250, or three months.

Sergeant Garrod was walking along Queen's Road Central on the 14th instant when he saw a Chinaman coming along who looked suspiciously bulky about the coat. He stopped him, and on searching him found he was carrying a bag containing 53 letters from Canton, which he was delivering, and that he had also in his possession some lottery tickets. The man, who gave the name of Wong Ui, was subsequently brought before Mr. Hazeland, who fined him \$100 or two months for committing a breach of the Post Office Regulations, and \$25, or a week, for being in possession of lottery tickets.

On the 15th inst. Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co., one of the largest and oldest retail firms in China, celebrated its jubilee. It was founded by Mr. Ninian Crawford, who was joined shortly after its establishment by Mr. T. A. Lane. The present Mr. D. R. F. Crawford (just now away on a holiday) has been connected with the firm for over 40 years. The Shanghai and Yokohama houses were originally branches of the Hongkong firm, but they had been separated now for some years. The present premises in Queen's Road Central have been occupied by the firm for 50 years. They have recently, however, been sold, and a new building on the Praya Reclamation is being erected for the firm's occupation.

Robert Kent and Roderick McNeil, two seamen staying at the Sailors' Home, appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 14th inst. charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Western Hotel and refusing to quit, and the second defendant was further charged with assaulting Constable Abley when in the execution of his duty. The constable was on duty at the Koshing Theatre the previous afternoon, when Mr. Varrelman, of the Western Hotel, sent for him, saying that two men were fighting on his premises. He went and arrested the first defendant, whereupon the second defendant came behind him, caught him by the shoulders and struck him. The constable, however, stuck to his man and ultimately got him to the Police Station. The first defendant was fined \$5, or 14 days, for drunkenness, and the second \$5 or 14 days for drunkenness and \$10, or three weeks, for assaulting the constable.

Last week a Chinaman presented himself at the Central Police Station and charged a man, whose name he gave, for assaulting him by throwing a kerosine oil case at him. The Inspector in charge investigated the complaint, but as no corroboration whatever was forthcoming he refused the charge, and made an entry to that effect in the book provided for the purpose. At about two a.m. on the 13th instant the man who made the complaint was found dead in his quarters at No. 2, Gilman's Bazaar, Queen's Road, and his clansman reported the matter to the police, alleging that the man had died as the result of the assault made upon him last week. The man said to have committed the assault was arrested. In the meantime the body was examined by the medical men connected with the jail, and as they certified that plague was the cause of death the man who had been arrested was let go.

The following have been appointed officers of the Kowloon Bowling Club:—President, Mr. W. Ramsey; vice president, Mr. W. C. Jack, secretary Mr. J. Macdonald; treasurer, Mr. J. Wilkie; committee, Messrs. A. Ritchie, N. Mumford, A. Ewing, T. Skinner, J. Henderson, and E. C. Wilks.

At the Magistracy on the 10th inst. Cheung Su Ki, clerk, was charged with keeping a house at No. 7, Li Yuen Street East, as a common gaming house and 11 others were charged with gambling therein. Mr. Mounsey, who appeared for the defendants, argued that the house was used as a fruit-club. His Worship reserved his decision until Friday next.

At the Magistracy on the 10th inst. Wong Fat, coal merchant at Fung Man Lane, was charged at the instance of Inspector Duncan with having in his possession weights five per cent against the purchaser. The man had been supplying coal to the Government launches, and as it was suspected that he was giving short weight a report was made to Inspector Duncan who sent for his weights and found them unjust. A fine of \$200 was imposed.

At fire broke out in the Arsenal Yard on the night of the 10th, which, but for the energy displayed by some of the workmen, might have had most serious consequences. The outbreak took place in No. 9 store room, which is filled with fuses and other highly inflammable goods. Some empty cartridge-boxes and several boxes of fuses caught fire. The watchman gave the alarm at once and the City Fire Brigade was summoned, but fortunately were the Brigade arrived on the scene the fire had not had time to spread much, and the flames were extinguished.

A plain-clothes constable from Kowloon was strolling along Queen's Road West on Thursday afternoon, 9th inst., when he saw a dirty-looking coolie running down a by-street with an umbrella under his arm. He gave chase, caught him, and took him to No. 7 Police Station. While he was there a man came in and complained that he went into a shop leaving his umbrella outside, and that when he came out again he found it had gone. He identified the umbrella in the station as his. On the 10th inst. Mr. Hazeland sentenced the thief to a month's hard labour. Another man who stole an umbrella under exactly similar circumstances, and was caught in the same way, was similarly dealt with.

Lau A Fung, mistress of a brothel at 568, Queen's Road West, appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 15th inst. charged first with taking a girl named Chan Tai Ho in pledge, and secondly with unlawfully detaining her against her will and compelling her to become a prostitute. It seems that the girl is married and her husband came to Hongkong from Hoihow. She followed him, and as she had no money with which to pay for her passage, she borrowed \$20 from a man who was on the boat. She had nowhere to go when she landed, and this man took her to 568, Queen's Road West, on the 15th March. She says she saw the mistress give the man \$20. She was not willing to become a prostitute, but the mistress compelled her, beating and pinching her when she refused. Ultimately her husband happened to see her, and he gave information to the Registrar-General's department, who took the girl out of the house. The case was adjourned until to-day.

At about eight p.m. on the 11th inst. the captain and chief engineer (both Chinamen), of a steam tug belonging to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire were walking towards Shaui-kiwan when they were set upon by three men. One seized the captain by the queue, snatched his watch and handed it to one of the others, and then knocked the captain down. The engineer had his umbrella taken from him and he was vigorously belaboured with it, so much so that he thought discretion the better part of valour and took to his heels, calling out lustily for the police. A Chinese constable heard his cries and came forward. On seeing the constable the men ran away, but the limb of the law was too fleet of foot for one of them, whom he caught and took to the police station. It transpired that this man had had some trouble with the captain, and it is surmised that he got two friends to join him in making an attack on him by way of revenge. The man was brought before Mr. Hazeland on the 13th inst. and remanded.

At the Magistracy on the 11th inst. Mr. Hazeland complimented Chinese Constable No. 249 on his arrest of a suspicious-looking character on the 10th at midnight. He saw a man standing in a doorway in Queen's Road West, and on going up to him and examining him found he had on him a couple of fighting irons. He took him into custody, and he was fined \$100 or three months.

Between seven and eight o'clock on the night of the 11th inst. a Chinaman residing at 73, Queen's Road Central, retired to have a bath. As the lamp was burning low he took up a tin of oil to replenish it, the light still burning. The oil thus became ignited; the lamp exploded and the man was badly burned about the head. He was taken to the Central Police Station and from there to the Hospital.

At about 8.45 p.m. on the 11th inst. Indian constable No. 622 was on duty in Yaumati when he saw a man named Lo Sam gambling with sticks. On the constable going up to him the man tore his jacket and attempted to strike him. Another constable found him on the ground surrounded by a crowd of coolies, who were beating him. He arrested the defendant, the others running away. At the Magistracy on the 13th the man was fined \$3, or 14 days, for gambling, and \$15, or a month, for the assault, being also ordered to pay \$7 compensation.

Luk Li, keeper of a brothel in Ship Street, was on the 13th inst. charged on remand with taking part in purchasing one Lau Sai Kau for the purposes of prostitution. The girl said she was a married woman. Her husband was a coolie in Hongkong and sometimes at Yaumati. Her husband sold her on the 13th May to the defendant. It was not the fault of the defendant that she bought her. She did not force her to be a prostitute. She had no money and her husband could not support her, so she became a prostitute. The defendant was discharged.

A coolie named Cheong Ping was charged at the Magistracy on the 15th inst., along with two others, with robbing one Wong Tai of a silver watch valued at \$20. The complainant is the captain of the steam tug *Tow*. He did not know the defendant. At about eight o'clock on Saturday night he and the engineer and two others went to Shaui-kiwan. On the way the defendant and two others came up behind them. The defendant took hold of his queue with one hand and with the other took his watch. He caught hold of the defendant, but the other two decamped. The engineer, who was called as a witness, said he ran away on the men coming up. The defendant was discharged.

A somewhat interesting law suit, and one which is not without local interest, is engaging the attention of one of the United States Circuit Courts. It is a claim made by the Joseph Ladue Gold Mining Company against the Frankfort Marine Insurance Company, of Frankfort-on-Main, on a policy for the charter money earned by the Government transport *Morgan City* up to the time the vessel was wrecked in the Inland Sea. It appears that the *Morgan City* was chartered for \$600 a day net, and that the plaintiff Company paid the defendants a premium of \$750 for \$25,000 of insurance on the charter party to be earned. The transport was wrecked last September, and up to that time she had earned under the charter \$13,400. The total amount of the charter was \$54,000, so that the loss resulting from the wreck was \$40,600. The sum sued for represents the proportion of insurance earned by the transport after the making of the charter.

Madam Alice Esty Marsh, professionally known as Miss Alice Esty, is expected to join her husband, Mr. Alec Marsh, in Hongkong at no very distant date. New photographs of her appear in several of the home illustrated papers recently to hand. Madam Marsh is an American, born and educated in Boston, but she has thoroughly settled down in England, though travelling remains one of her greatest pleasures. According to an interviewer in *The King*, of the forty-eight operas that make up her repertoire, Madam Marsh finds it hard to make a special choice; but one of her most pleasant recollections is that of a concert at Balmoral in 1898, when Her Majesty personally presented her with an enamel pendant set with pearls. On this occasion Madam Marsh and her husband, after the concert, were bidden to remain during the evening in the drawing room—an unusual honour.

The coolie who murdered another coolie at the Government Civil Hospital last week is still at large.

At a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute on 11th July, Mr. D. Warren Smith, late of Hongkong, was elected a Fellow.

The man who was injured by the bursting of a kerosine lamp which he was re-filling died at the Hospital on Monday.

Among the passengers who proceeded home by the last German Mail were Mr. and Mrs. Charles and family, of Tattersall fame at Shanghai.

For dredging within the man-of-war anchorage on Tuesday a boat-woman was fined \$25, or a month. A P.C. found her dredging close to H. M. S. *Argonaut*.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Ho Ngok Lau, \$50.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 12th August shows that 362 non-Chinese and 128 Chinese visited the Library, 179 non-Chinese and 1,357 Chinese the Museum.

On the 15th inst. the British men-of-war in the harbour were flying their ensigns half-mast high as a mark of respect to Mr. Barnett, boat-swain of the *Argonaut*, who died at the Naval Hospital on Tuesday night.

Information has reached the colony of the murder of a lady who went by the name of Miss Wilson, and who resided at Thomas's Grill Rooms. She recently went to stay at the house of the proprietor at a place beyond Macao, and one night last week the house was broken into by robbers and she was killed.

Of the 29 plague cases last week, 19 occurred in the City of Victoria and 10 in other districts. Apart from plague, there were only two cases of communicable disease, viz., of enteric fever, both in the City of Victoria, one of which ended fatally. Up to yesterday afternoon the total number of plague cases for the year were 1,040 and the deaths from plague, 980.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Douglas S. S. Co., Ltd.	\$25
Hon. F. H. May	10
R. Houghton & Co.	10

The following appointments are notified in the *Gazette*:—Mr. J. Dyer Ball to be Acting Inspector of Schools during the absence on leave of Mr. A. W. Brewin; Mr. A. H. Hollingsworth to be Acting Executive Engineer, P.W.D., during the absence of Mr. J. R. Crook; Messrs. H. W. Slade and A. Bryer to be members of the Church Body in place of Messrs. H. E. Hardcastle and J. R. Crook, resigned.

The Return of Stamp Revenue during the months of July 1899 and 1900 shows a total increase of \$11,536.55 on last year. The main items of increase are:—Probate, or Letters of Administration, \$5,956.50; Conveyance or assignment, \$1,844.00; Adhesive Stamps \$1,108.66; Charter Party \$1,006.10. There are no notable decreases, the largest being:—Transfer of Shares, \$625.00; and Policy of Insurance \$203.85.

We have received from the Hongkong Printing Press of D'Aguilar Street a lithographed copy of a "Marche-Polka" by Pereira Marquis. It is a very neat production, and does considerable credit to the publishers, who inform us they are selling it at a dollar a copy. One half of the proceeds of sale, they state, are to be handed over to a Society in Lisbon named "Assistencia Nacional Tuberculosis" the President of which is H. M. the Queen of Portugal; and the other half is to be devoted for the benefit of the widow and children of the late officer, H. N. Carvalho of India.

The following are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve during the month ended 31st June:—

Banks.	Average Specie in amount.	Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$ 2,683,108	\$1,500,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	7,993,354	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	445,433	150,000
Total	\$11,121,895	\$6,650,000

The Sketch for July 11th contains an excellent full-length portrait of Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., Commander of the troops at Hongkong, and says of him:—"Major-General Gascoigne's career has been such that little anxiety need be felt as to his fulfilment of any part he may be required to take."

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 13th instant Mr. G. J. W. King offered for competition five lots of Crown land at Mong Kok Tsui, Kowloon. Kowloon Inland lot No. 1,101 was sold to Lau Hin Ting for \$5,710 (upset \$5,550). Chinese houses are to be erected thereon. There were no bids for any of the four other lots.

At seven o'clock on the 15th inst. Sergeant Terret saw a boat come along the Praya with two men and a woman. The men got on to the Praya with the basket produced. He examined the basket, which the first defendant said belonged to him, and found that it contained ship's provisions. As they could give no satisfactory explanation as to where they got the goods he took them into custody. Mr. Hazeland discharged the second and third defendants, but fined the first \$25, or six months.

About two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon Inspector Baker and a party of police raided house No. 5, Third Street, where they found a number of men playing *pai kau*. Sixteen of them were arrested and several escaped. Only the latter attempted to get to the next house by walking along the verandah. He, however, lost his footing and fell into the street, sustaining such injuries that he died shortly afterwards. Of those arrested two (the keepers of the house) were fined \$50 each and the rest \$3 each.

At about nine o'clock on Tuesday night P.C. Reid met Tai San at Sham-Shui Point with another man. The latter had an opium pipe in his hand, and he threw it down on the ground as he was about to search him, and Tai San stood in front of him. He was about to search the man when Tai San pushed him away, and he knocked them both down. The man who had the pipe ran away, but the constable took the other man to the station. On the 15th inst. the man was fined \$15, or a month.

A herdsman named Herman Singh was on the 13th inst. charged with allowing certain cattle to enter the water-works at Po Hang on the 11th inst., when 28 cows were found in the water. A fine of \$100, or three months, was imposed.

Another large Chinese acquisition of land in the colony is reported. The whole of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co.'s property at West Point, known as the Richmond Estate, and comprising Inland Lots 1,216 and 609, has been sold to a Chinese Syndicate for \$190,000.

The new Governor of Macao, H. E. Senor Horta e Costa, accompanied by his staff and wife and child, arrived in Hongkong on Saturday, the 11th inst., in the Portuguese transport *Cazenigo*. He gave a private dinner at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday evening, at which General Silvano and Lieut. Cavalhaes (who accompanied him from Portugal), two officials from Macao, and Consul-General A. G. Romano and his Vice-Consul (Mr. J. J. Leiria) were present. Senhor Horta e Costa left for Macao on the *Adamastor* at 10 o'clock on the 12th inst.

An American contemporary gives the number of Roman Catholic converts throughout China as 609,360.

The new Agent-General for New South Wales, Mr. Henry Copeland, the *Sydney Telegraph* states, hopes to induce the Admiralty to establish stations for the supply of Australian coal to warships at Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo, and other ports.

We have received the Report of the Shanghai Feather Cleaning Company, Limited, in Liquidation, to be presented to the shareholders at an extraordinary meeting; at the office of the Liquidator, Mr. H. Lehman, Shanghai, on the 17th instant. The Liquidator in his report submits the final account. The profit and loss account shows a debit-balance of Tls. 247,900.44, the loss on consignments to Europe amounting to Tls. 67,367.92 and that on the whole of the property of the Company, sold at public auction, being Tls. 110,026.74. A proposal will be submitted to liberate the Directors and the Liquidator from their responsibility.

DIARY OF THE CRISIS.

May 27.—Boxers burn station on the Lu-Han line.

May 28.—Boxers burn stations between Peking and Paotingfu. Belgian engineers and other refugees start from Paotingfu to cut their way to Tientsin. Fengtai station and works burnt. Railway communication with Peking interrupted.

May 29.—Communication with Peking restored.

May 30.—Guards for Peking Legations commenced arriving at Tientsin.

May 31.—First detachment of guards go up by rail to Peking in the afternoon from Tientsin.

June 1.—Supposed incendiarism at Tientsin.

June 2.—Murder of Revs. Norman and Robinson. Paotingfu refugees reach Tientsin.

June 5.—Railway intercourse between Peking and Tientsin finally destroyed.

June 7.—Large allied force lands at Taku.

June 9.—Detailed message from Sir C. MacDonald to Consul Warren at Shanghai.

June 10.—Admiral Seymour starts with 800 allied troops for Peking. Telegraphic communication with Peking ceases.

June 11.—Murder of Japanese Chancellor at Peking.

June 13.—Baron von Ketteler, German Ambassador at Peking, murdered. Rioting at Yunnanfu.

June 14.—Fighting outside Austrian Legation at Peking.

June 15.—*Hinsang* leaves Hongkong with 600 men from Hongkong Regiment and Asiatic Artillery. Chapels in Tientsin native city burnt.

June 16.—Admiral Seymour cut off from Tientsin. *Terrible* takes 300 Welsh Fusiliers and Engineers from Hongkong.

June 17.—Taku Forts attacked and captured by allied warships. Chinese bombardment of Tientsin begins.

June 19.—Admiral Seymour reaches a point 25 miles from Peking, but is compelled to retreat.

June 21.—*Terrible* reaches Tongku. First Legation (Austrian) at Peking captured by Kansu troops.

June 22.—Two attempts to relieve Tientsin fail.

June 23.—Successful third attempt to reach Tientsin. Chinese remain in force in the neighbourhood.

June 24.—All Legations at Peking destroyed except British, French, and German.

June 25.—First Indian transport starts for China.

June 26.—Admiral Seymour relieved and back in Tientsin.

June 29.—Message from Sir R. Hart reaches Tientsin.

July 1.—Condition of Peking reported desperate.

July 4.—Last letters to hand from Sir C. MacDonald and Mr. Conger written at Peking. 44 killed and 88 wounded at the Legation to date.

July 7.—Murder of all foreigners remaining at Paotingfu.

July 9.—*Nerbudda*, first transport, reaches Hongkong.

July 11.—Heavy fighting at Tientsin.

July 14.—120 more Welsh Fusiliers leave Hongkong for North. Allies capture Tientsin native city with a loss of 775 men. General Yamaguchi leaves Japan for Taku.

July 15.—General Gaslee reaches Hongkong.

July 16.—Reported armistice at Peking. 62 deaths at Legations to date.

July 17.—Li Hung-chang appointed Viceroy of Chihli. State of war on Amur River.

July 18.—Li Hung-chang arrives at Hongkong and leaves for Shanghai.

July 20.—Reported appeal of Chinese Emperor to Japan. Alleged receipt of message from Conger at Washington.

July 21.—Consul Carles receives Sir C. MacDonald's letter of the 4th inst. I.M.C. staff safe on this date.

July 22.—Li Hung-chang reaches Shanghai. Madras Light Infantry reach Hongkong.

July 23.—Proposed Requiem Service at St. Paul's for Peking refugees postponed. Murder of 5 foreigners and many native Christians in Shansi.

July 26.—Admiral Seymour with *Cenaurion* and *Alacrity* arrives off Shanghai.

August 1.—Admiral Seymour goes on visit to Nanking.

August 2.—Peking prisoners reported from Japanese source again in danger.
 August 3.—Sir C. Macdonald sends cypher message reporting Legation fortifications strengthened.
 August 4.—First detachment Cavalry Brigade leaves India for China.
 August 5.—Admiral Seymour returns to Shanghai. Advance on Peking starts. Allies attack and rout Chinese at Peitsang.
 August 6.—Jelunsa reaches Hongkong. Emperor and Empress Dowager leave Peking under escort. Chapels burnt at Ung-kung, near Swatow.
 August 7.—H.M.S. *Goliath* leaves Hongkong for the North.
 August 8.—Allies capture Yangtsun, on the line to Peking.
 August 10.—Allies reach Hosiwu.
 August 11.—Cypher messages, dated Peking, August 6, reach British and U. S. Consuls at Canton. Allies reach Anping, 27 miles from Peking. Sir C. Macdonald reports "All right."
 August 13.—Allies reach Tungchow.
 August 14.—Gen. Creagh and Indian troops reach Shanghai. Protests against their landing.
 August 16.—Transport still at Woosung.

M. E. Wagner, of the Customs Service, who is among those killed at Peking, was son of a former French Consul-General at Shanghai.

In the Yokohama Ku Saibansho on Thursday morning the 2nd instant, before Judge Danno, Mr. J. R. Meston, second engineer of the steamer *Victoria*, was sentenced to seven days' detention on a charge of having assaulted a Japanese on board the ship, causing him three days' incapacitation from work. The accused has expressed his intention to appeal.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	—	—
Amoy	92,120	110,774
Foochow	8,718,573	8,503,037
Canton	—	—
	8,810,693	8,613,811

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1899-1900 lbs.	1898-99. lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	26,290,338	21,327,190

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	4,820,398	2,577,420
Foochow	3,334,609	1,427,894
	8,155,007	4,005,314

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Yokohama	3,177,099	8,384,093
Kobe	6,498,079	7,154,042
	9,675,178	15,538,135

SILK.

CANTON, 3rd August.—Silk.—Tsateles. No settlements are reported. Re-reels. 50 bales of No. 1 Re-reels were settled last week at \$700 to \$690 per picul. Dealers are still asking \$690, but with orders in hand concessions of \$10 to \$15 per picul might be obtainable. Filatures.—The quieter tone reported in our last issue has been accentuated. Very little has been done during the last week, and transactions during the latter part of the period under review have been practically nil. From prices paid we quote: \$800 for Wing Wo Lun and Yee Wo Loong 9/11, \$790 for Kwong Shun Cheong and Yu Wo Cheong 11/13,

\$780 for Yut Cheong Wo and Po Lun Sang 10/12 and Kun Wa Lun 11/13, \$765 for Kwong King Loong 10/12, \$745 for How King Cheong 13/15, \$735 for Kwong Chung Hing 11/13, \$730 for Kwong King Yuen 20/24 and 24/28, \$722½ average for Hing Lun 11/13 and 13/15, \$715 for Koun King 24/28 and 26/30, \$710 for Tai King Lun and King Wo Cheong 18/22, \$700 to \$695 for Lee Wo Lun and Kwong Cheong Loong 12/14, \$660 for Lee Wo Lun and Tack On Loong 14/18, \$645 for Po King Lun 16/20. Short-reels.—Being quite out of demand and a considerable stock having accumulated, prices show a marked decline. From prices paid we quote: \$780 for Koun King and Yu Wo Cheong 14/16, \$755 for Miu Wo Cheong and Po Cheong Wo 14/16, \$730 for Koong Wo On 14/16. Waste.—Very little has been done and the market closes weak. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 2/08, and Fcs. 2.58 per Dollar.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The weakness of the market continues. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$91.50 to \$92.00; sales 400 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The decline in prices continues, the market being dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.60 to \$7.65	pcu.
do. " 2, White.....	7.02 to 7.05	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.20 to 5.23	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.03 to 5.05	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.70 to 7.75	"
do. " 1, White.....	5.10 to 5.15	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.00 to 5.05	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	4.97 to 5.00	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	11.42 to 11.47	"
Shekloong "	9.94 to 9.98	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Annam*, sailed 13th August. For Marseilles:—57 bales raw silk, 4 bales waste silk, 20 cases silks, 1,679 pkgs. tea, 6 cases copper coins, 94 rolls matting. For Lyons:—349 bales raw silk. For London:—60 bales raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—Malwa.—A fair amount of chests changed hands. New \$880/90 and old \$900/920.

Bengal.—Market has kept very steady, and we close with Patna and Benares at \$937½.

Persian.—Superior drug is scarce and wanted at \$880/890.

STOCK.

Patna.....	982
Benares.....	440
Malwa	506½
Persian	2,129½

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—A fair amount of sales has been put through; market closing steady. Stock, about 3,000 bales.

Bombay, 21.00 to 22.50 picul.
 Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 22.00 to 24.50 "
 and Dacca, }
 Shanghai and Japanese, ... 26.00 to 27.00 "
 Tungchow and Ningpo, 28.00 to 27.00 "
 Sales: about 700 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 17th August.—During the past fortnight our market has become very quiet, and dealers, having in view the complicated state of affairs in Peking, show little or no disposition to buy. The distributing market in Canton is much slower than when last advised, and deliveries have fallen off. Holders are becoming alarmed and have dropped their selling rates \$1 to \$2 per bale all round. Best spinnings are in short supply, and one or two favourite chops could be placed at or about quotations; medium and common threads form the bulk of present stocks, and prices are more or less nominal. The market closes weak and quiet.

Local Manufacture.—A sale of 50 bales No. 12s. of the Hongkong S.W. and Dyeing Mills at \$89, is reported.

Japanese Yarn.—Holders have come down in their ideas of values, but only a small business has been put through notwithstanding, say 250 bales Kanegafuchi No. 20s. at \$97.

Raw Cotton.—Indian discriptions continue strong, but with a limited enquiry; a parcel of 155 bales superfine machine-ginned Bengal finding ready buyers at \$24½. In addition to the above, sales of 61 bales Bengal at \$22½ and of 49 bales at \$23½ are reported, leaving a balance of about 1,500 bales on the market. No business is reported in either Rangoon or China Cotton. Quotations are Bengal \$20 to \$27, Rangoon \$18 to \$25, and China \$25 to \$26.

Exchange on India has continued steady and closes to-day at Rs. 15½ for T/T and Rs. 15½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½.

From Shanghai the undernoted business is reported and local spinnings for the fortnight ending 12th instant, viz:—

Indian.—Total sales 5,375 bales comprising 2,023 bales No. 10s., 140 bales No. 16s. and 2,212 bales No. 20s. prices remaining with but little alteration as when last given and market closing steady. The stock was estimated at about 43,000 bales.

Japanese.—Total sales 1,100 bales on the basis of Tls. 71 to 73 for No. 16s., and Tls. 72½ to 74 for No. 20s. rates showing an all-round improvement of one Tael per bale and market closing strong and bare of stock.

Local.—Only a small business has been put through, say about 2,000 bales No. 12s. and No. 14s. on the basis of Tls. 61 to 62½ for No. 12s. and Tls. 63½ to 67 for No. 14s., market closing firm, some spinners refusing current rates.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The tone of the market has improved and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.70 to 2.75
" Round, Good quality	2.94 to 2.97
" Long	3.25 to 3.30
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	2.87 to 2.90
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.25 to 3.30
" White	3.94 to 3.97
" Fine Cargo	4.08 to 4.13

COALS.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—Small sales of Japanese at quotations. Small sales of Cardiff at \$33.00 ex godown. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$35 ex godown
Australian \$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal	
Yubari Lump.....	\$11.00—ex godown
Miki Lump	8.00 to 8.50 nominal
Moji Lump	\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double } 10.50 ex godown	
screened	
Hongay Lump.....	8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust	5.50 "
Briquettes.....	14.50 ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—Among the sales reported during the month are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—1,050 bales No. 10 at \$86 to \$92, 750 bales No. 12 at \$87 to \$94, 350 bales No. 16 at \$90 to \$101, 1,300 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$105. *Grey Shirtings*:—600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Cock at \$2.90, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$99.25, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4.20, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.92½, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.65. *Scarlet Long Ells*:—125 pieces 8 lbs. 4 Cocks at \$6.90.

COTTON YARN—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$76.00 to \$102.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.05 to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
8.4 lbs.	2.90 to 3.65
9 to 10 lbs.	3.80 to 4.65
White Shirtings—54 to 58 rd.	2.60 to 2.80
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.30 to 5.10
Fine	5.20 to 7.80
Book-folds.	4.40 to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.78 to 1.60
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 ")	2.00 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 ")	1.90 to 2.10
7lbs. (32 ")	2.40 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.80 to 3.50
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.20 to 7.10

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs	1.55	to	5.00
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08½	to	0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22½	to	0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20	to	0.22½
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.36	to	2.50
WOOLENS—			
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.80	to	1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25	to	2.50
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.40	to	10.00
Assorted	6.50	to	10.10
Camlets—Assorted	12.50	to	32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	8.00	to	20.00
Assorted			
Orleans—Plain	8.50	to	10.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00	to	18.00
METALS—			
Iron—Nail Rod	4.80	to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.80	to	—
Swedish Bar	7.00	to	—
Small Round Rod	5.50	to	—
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	5.75	to	—
Wire 5/25	8.00	to	—
Old Wire Rope	2.50	to	—
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.00	to	—
Australian	10.00	to	—
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	37.00	to	—
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	37.00	to	—
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	37.00	to	—
Composition Nails	60.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	38.00	to	—
Tin	59.00	to	—
Steel ½ to 1	6.75	to	—
SUNDRIES—			
Quicksilver	157.00	to	—
Window Glass	5.50	to	—
Kerosene Oil	2.57½	to	—

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The market continues dull and inactive with no special feature to report. Rates however remain steady.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been placed in small lots at quotation. Latest London rate is £56. Nationals have changed hands at \$26 and \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been negotiated at the reduced rate of \$255. Cantons and China Traders are on offer at quotations. In the Northern Insurances there is no business to report and rates are taken from the latest Shanghai circular.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs remain dull, with sellers and no buyers or sales at \$295. Chinas have fallen to \$76 with small sales.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been enquired for during the week at \$29½, but no shares appear to be obtainable at that rate and market closes firmer at \$29½. Indos have been placed at \$72, but at time of closing are wanted at \$74. Douglases after further sales at \$39½ are enquired for at \$40. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are enquired for in a small way at \$116 and a sale at that is reported. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—The market under this heading has ruled very dull, and with the exception of a few small sales of Jelebus at \$8, Punjoms at \$5½, and Olivers at \$3, there is no business to report. Raubs continue quiet but steady at \$56 and Charbonnages could be placed at quotation.

DOCKS WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue dull with no business of any importance to report. The report just published shows a net profit for six months ended 30th June of \$598,028.38. The Directors recommend an 8 per cent. dividend and 12 per cent. bonus, \$240,910.91 to be written off, Docks, Launches, &c., and \$356,236 to be carried forward to new account. Kowloon Wharves have advanced to \$90 for old and \$60 for new shares with sales at those rates and earlier in the week at \$88, \$89, and \$58 and \$59. Market closes at \$90 and \$60. Wanchais have been at quotation.

LANDS HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled firm with fair sales at \$156, \$157, and \$158, market closing steady at \$159. Hotels continue dull at \$124 with sellers and no sales to report. West Points could be placed at quotation, but none are available. Humphreys have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$10.25, \$10.50, \$11, and \$11.15, market closing steady at \$11.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs are on offer and a small sale has been effected at quotations. Rates for the Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cements have been placed at \$20 and \$20½, Campbell and Moores at \$20, and Watsons at \$15½.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$506½, sales
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	305 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	24	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$27, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Found. Shares	£8	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1½, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20, sales & buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9½, sales & buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$116, sales & buys.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$24, sales
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8½.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$48.
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20.
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$118.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10½, sales & sells.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$10	\$2, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$100	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$50	\$124, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$25	\$163.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$90, o. s., \$60, n. s.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$150, sellers
Insurance—	\$125	510 p. ct. prem. =
Canton		[\$762½, sales
China Fire	\$50	\$131, sellers
China Traders'	\$20	\$76, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$25	\$57, sellers
North-China	\$50	\$295, sellers
Straits	\$25	Tls. 165, sellers
Union	\$20	\$1.
Yangtze	\$50	\$255.
Land and Building—	\$60	\$121, sellers
Hongkong Land Inv.		
Humphreys Estate	\$50	\$160, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$10	\$11, sellers
West Point Building	\$30	\$25½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$50	\$46, buyers
Mineral—	\$100	\$36.
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$250, buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	10 cents, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$8½, buyers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	\$15, cents, sellers
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$3, sales
Do. B.	\$4½	\$2½, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$5½, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$56, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$21, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	{ \$65, old sellers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	{ \$18, sellers
China Ordinary	£10	{ \$11, buyers
Do.	£5	{ \$10 10s., buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	{ \$5 5s., buyers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	{ \$40, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	{ \$29½, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£100	{ \$74, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$300, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	{ \$18, sales
Do.	\$3	{ \$4½, sales & bys.
United Asbestos	\$4	{ \$5, sellers
Do.	\$10	{ \$9½, sellers
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37½	{ \$20.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	{ \$57, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	{ \$10.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	{ \$15½, sellers
		{ \$5½, buyers.

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 17th August.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.54
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.59

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.07
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	49½
Credits, 60 days' sight	50½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	151½
Bank, on demand	151½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	151½
Bank, on demand	151½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	1 p. c. pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	2½ p. c. pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	½ p. c. pm.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	121½
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	3½ p. c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	3 p. c. pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	60
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate 9.83

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 52

BAR SILVER, per oz. 28½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The market remains about the same as last reported. From Saigon to Hongkong, 14½ cents per picul nominal; to one port Philippines, several steamers have been closed at 35 cents per picul; to one port north coast Java, 32½ cents per picul is offered. Java to this, 32½ cents per picul is obtainable for dry sugar. Philippines to Japan, a small steamer secured 40 cents per picul. Newchwang to Canton, 38 cents per picul. Coal freights.—Moji to Hongkong, \$3.30; to Singapore, \$4 per ton firm. Mororan to this, tonnage is wanted at \$3.80 per ton. Sailing vessels.—One vessel has been chartered to load here for New York, at considerably higher rates than previous charters.

The following are the settlements:—

Paul Revere—American ship, 1,641 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.

Orestes—British steamer, 2,992 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$4 per ton.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, one port Japan to Manila, \$5½ per ton.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Taksang—British steamer, 977 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Tailee—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Ragnar—Norwegian steamer, 1,220 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (35,000 piculs), 35 cents per picul.

Shantung—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 34 cents per picul.

Pakshan—British steamer, 1,235 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong (dry sugar), 37½ cents per picul.

Nanchang—British steamer, 1,063 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong (wet sugar), 42½ cents per picul.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, Hoilo and Manila to Kobe, 37½ cents; if Yokohama, 40 cents per picul.

Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, monthly, 3/3 months (re-charter), \$7,000 per month.

Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, monthly, 4 months (re-charter), \$8,600 per month.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$7,600 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—*Malta* (str.), *Rhipheus* (str.), *Glaucus* (str.), *Prometheus* (str.), *Banca* (str.), *Java* (str.), *Teenkai* (str.), *Kanagawa Maru* (str.).
 FOR MARSEILLES.—*Ernest Simons* (str.), *Banca* (str.), *Kanagawa Maru* (str.), *Teenkai* (str.).
 FOR LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—*Ixion* (str.).
 FOR BREMEN.—*Weimar* (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Marburg* (str.), *Saxonia* (str.), *Sibiria* (str.), *Serbia* (str.).
 FOR TRIESTE.—*Franz Ferdinand* (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Olympia* (str.), *Riojun Maru* (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—*Empress of India* (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND, O.—*Braemar* (str.).
 FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Coptic* (str.), *America Maru* (str.), *City of R. de Janeiro* (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Richmond Castle* (str.), *Indravelli* (str.), *Glenesk* (str.).
 FOR SAN DIEGO.—*Belgian King* (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIA.—*Kasuga Maru* (str.), *Tsinan* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August—
 ARRIVALS.
 10, Pennsylvania, U.S. transport, from Manila.
 10, Emma, German str., from Antwerp.
 11, Nizam, H.B.M. transport, from Calcutta.
 11, Olympia, Amr. str., from Tacoma.
 11, Tientsin, British str., from Moji.
 11, Quarta, German str., from Moji.
 11, Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Vettor Pisani, Italian cruiser, from Italy.
 11, Amara, British str., from Hongay.
 11, Cazengo, Portuguese transport, from Lisbon.
 11, Clara, German str., from Hoihow.
 11, Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.
 11, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.
 11, Loksang, British str., from Moji.
 11, Nanshan, Amr. supply ship, from Manila.
 11, Newchwang, British str., from Swatow.
 11, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 11, Silesia, German str., from Foochow.
 11, P. Rickmers, Ger. 4-m. ship, from N. York.
 12, Annam, French str., from Shanghai.
 12, Yarra, French str., from Saigon.
 12, Chittagong, British str., from Moji.
 12, Crown of Aragon, Brit. str., from F'chow.
 12, Ixion, British str., from Singapore.
 12, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 12, Warora, British transport, from Taku.
 13, Hector, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Bendavid, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Hanoi, French str., from Hoihow.
 13, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
 13, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 13, Suisang, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Tailee, German str., from Saigon.
 13, Alouette, French cruiser, from Saigon.
 13, Nuddea, Brit. transport, from Weihaiwei.
 13, Admiral Nakhimoff, Rus. cr., from S'pore.
 13, Wardha, British transport, from Taku.
 13, Choyang, British str., from Swatow.
 13, Benedi, British str., from Moji.
 13, Ashmore, Brit. str., from Barry (Wales).
 13, Argonaut, British battleship, from S'pore.
 13, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Bellerophon, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Hailong, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Zweena, British str., from Singapore.
 14, Franz Ferdinand, Aust. str., from Kobe.
 14, Kinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 14, Taiyuan, British str., from Melbourne.
 14, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
 14, Bengloe, British str., from Moji.
 14, Volate, British str., from Balik Pappan.
 14, Benclutha, British str., from Canton.
 14, Kingsing, British str., from Moji.
 14, China, Austrian str., from Singapore.
 14, Anapa, British str., from Woosung.
 14, Changsha, British str., from Foochow.
 15, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 15, Anping, British str., from Canton.
 15, Brand Nora, Norw. str., from Manila.
 15, Rosetta, British str., from Yokohama.
 15, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.
 15, Cachar, French transport, from Haiphong.
 15, Friant, French gunboat, from Haiphong.
 15, Saranac, Amr. bark, from New York.

15, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 15, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 15, Itaura, British transport, from Taku.
 15, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
 15, Nuvani, British transport, from Calcutta.
 16, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 16, Rewa, British transport, from Calcutta.
 16, S. v. Langkat, Dutch str., from Singapore.
 16, Malta, British str., from Shanghai.
 16, Hermes, Norw. str., from Hongay.
 17, Taishun, Amr. str., from Haiphong.
 17, Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
 17, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 17, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
 17, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.
 17, Parramatta, British str., from Bombay.

August—

DEPARTURES.

10, R. C. Rickmers, Ger. sh., for Bangkok.
 11, Lizard, British gunboat, for Foochow.
 11, Nawab, H.B.M. transport, for Calcutta.
 11, Royalist, British str., for Guam.
 11, Ningpo, British str., for Moji.
 11, Trym, Norw. str., for Chefoo.
 11, S. Rickmers, Brit. str., for Palambang.
 11, Queen Adelaide, Brit. str., for Moji.
 11, Albenga, German str., for Singapore.
 11, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
 11, Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
 11, Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 11, Anping, British str., for Canton.
 11, Dewawongse, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 12, Nizam, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 12, Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.
 12, Cazengo, Portuguese transport, for Macao.
 12, Kagan, British str., for Moji.
 12, Sarpedon, British str., for London.
 12, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 12, Hinsang, British str., for Singapore.
 12, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 12, Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Annam, French str., for Europe.
 13, Bormida, Italian str., for Bombay.
 13, Silesia, Ger. str., for Hamburg.
 13, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 13, Warora, British transport, for Calcutta.
 13, Nuddea, British transport, for Rangoon.
 13, Wardha, British transport, for Calcutta.
 14, Vettor Pisani, Italian cr., for Shanghai.
 13, Emma, German str., for Kiouchow.
 13, Olympia, Amr. str., for Manila.
 14, Newchwang, British str., for Tamsui.
 14, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 14, Hiroshima Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 14, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
 14, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Carlisle City, British str., for S. Francisco.
 14, Duke of Fife, British str., for Moji.
 15, Menmuir, British str., for Manila.
 15, Ashmore, British str., for Keaochau.
 15, Marburg, German str., for Shanghai.
 15, Kirkdale, British str., for W'haiwei.
 15, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 15, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 15, Tartar, British str., for Vancouver.
 15, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 15, Breconshire, Brit. str., for Tacoma.
 15, Esmeralda, British str., for Iloilo.
 15, Holsatia, German str., for Saigon.
 16, Nuvani, British transport, for Shanghai.
 16, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
 16, Ixion, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, Hector, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, Benclutha, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, China, Austrian str., for Moji.
 16, Itaura, British transport, for Calcutta.
 16, Jelunga, British transport, for Shanghai.
 16, Changsha, British str., for Sydney.
 16, Dewawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 16, Bellerophon, British str., for Amoy.
 16, P. C. Klao, British str., for Swatow.
 16, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 16, Alouette, French cruiser, for Shanghai.
 17, Friant, French cruiser, for Shanghai.
 17, Cachar, French transport, for Shanghai.
 17, Rewa, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 17, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 17, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 17, Airie, British str., for Moji.
 17, Loksang, British str., for Hongay.
 17, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 17, S. V. Langkat, Dutch str., for Swatow.
 17, Brand, Norwegian str., for Nagasaki.
 17, Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Nizam*, from Calcutta, Cpts. Goodwin, Bruce, Tweedell and Sergt. Bruce.
 Per *Silesia*, from Foochow, Messrs. Petersen, von Lork and Graf Ernestus von Chlendorff.
 Per *Annam*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. W. S. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Reyes and infant, Messrs. Rob. Hatrick and A. Hay; from Shanghai, Messrs. H. Morner, Buffner, Tibby, Macaulay, Karl Laffler, Miss Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Gutters and two children and Mr. J. Hind-choper.
 Per *Yarra*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Mr. F. Leon; from Saigon, Mr. Blest, Mgr. Moscard, Mrs. Badint, Rev. Pere Lattement and Mr. Lindermann; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Marquis and Marquise de Vittasinda, Rev. Pere de Bergueron, Mr. and Mrs. Feer, Messrs. Anderson and Leroy; from Saigon, Mrs. Pentimalli, Mrs. Guiseppina, Mrs. Catina, Mrs. Vordonis, Mrs. Catalini and baby; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. K. Murakami and G. Donnet; from Singapore, Messrs. C. Reuneraer and Maas Geesteranus.
 Per *Argonaut*, Messrs. Ommaney, Edwards, White and Howard.
 Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mr. Charles Weid, Mr. Schlliringer, Mrs. Glenny, Mr. Twickhead, Mr. and Mrs. Franket, Mr. and Mrs. Ewenberg and child, Mr. and Mrs. Avilies and children.
 Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Messrs. W. A. Cleland, Andres Puig, Pedro Cajagal, M. Cohen, J. W. Ironside, F. C. Schenkel, H. Surber, C. de la Cruz, M. Leader, T. S. Watson, J. McAville, Mrs. Pujo, and Mrs. Carmen Cortez and child.
 Per *Franz Ferdinand*, from Kobe, Mr. Pricher.
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Melbourne, Colonel Orr, Sir Charles Forrest and Capt. Raymond.
 Per *Kinkiang*, from Shanghai, Mr. John Short.
 Per *Haiching*, Mr. F. Blum, Capt. Farrow, and Dr. and Mrs. Maxwell.
 Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Wittinus, Herzberg and 2 children and 177 Chinese.
 Per *Malta*, from Kobe, for London, Mr. Wright and son; from Shanghai, Mr. Jones, infant and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Whittall and infant, Rev. Jackson, Rev. Boulden, Rev. and Mrs. Ford and infant; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Mr. A. W. Willis and Mr. J. Geeron; for Hongkong, Pere Casta, Mr. Cochin, Mr. Rande, Mr. Freemont, Dr. Parr, Messrs. Harper and Jonk.
 DEPARTED.
 Per *Yarra*, for Shanghai, Messrs. E. Raicevich, Spencer Ellam, G. Harling, J. Valentine, Rubin, Lindermann, C. Detrich, A. Berohe, C. Flink, S. Carl, J. S. Duncan, Y. Kono, A. do Rozario, Rev. Beanblat, Mr. and Mrs. I. Idelovich, Misses E. and F. Gentleman; for Kobe, Mr. M. Ishihara; for Yokohama, Rev. and Mrs. Byrde and Rev. E. J. Barnett.
 Per *Annam*, for Saigon, Mr. F. Fisher; for Singapore, Messrs. Jackson, J. A. Basagosti and Bro. Edonard; for Colombo, Bros. Gabriel and Julien, Mrs. Yeouna and child; for Marseilles, Messrs. Mondini and H. Surber.
 Per *Silesia*, from Tsingtau, for Hamburg, Mrs. Lork; from Moji, Mr. Petersen; from Shanghai, Mr. Olendorf; from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Möller and one child; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. John C. Bechini.
 Per *Menmuir*, for Manila, Miss Arellano, Mr. Reyes, Mrs. Coates, two children and two servants, Mr. A. S. Hay, Miss Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Knox, Messrs. M. Isaak, J. Lesaca, F. Borrás, F. de Rozario, L. Baotista and J. G. Fels.
 Per *Nippon Maru*, for Shanghai, Messrs. C. H. Paquet, S. A. Jenkinson, J. Weir, Page Buck, J. Morrean, J. Redelsperger, and Mrs. Jagumin, T. H. Simpson, G. Brookman, W. Reinhold, and S. Carr; for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. W. Frankell, Mr. and Mrs. M. Evenburg and Mr. Y. M. Oyaki; for Kobe, Mr. T. Sakada, Mrs. K. Hirota and Miss Hazel Stone; for Yokohama, Messrs. R. J. Gerard, A. E. Asgar and Mrs. C. W. Vance; for San Francisco, Messrs. A. Sueichard, C. Schlesinger, and J. Deuss.

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